

4, including 2 children, killed in accident

AMMAN (J.T.) — Four people, including two children, were killed in an accident on the Mafrat-Irbid road when the car they were travelling in was hit by a trailer-truck, the Civil Defence Department (CDD) said Friday. Seven other passengers in the Mercedes Benz car were injured, a CDD statement said. Musa Ramadan Khalaf, the driver of the Syrian-licensed plate trailer-truck which hit the car while overtaking it, fled the scene of the accident but was arrested in Irbid, the statement said. The dead were identified as Omar Hussein Obeidat, 45, assistant district governor of Ajloun, his wife Hind, 30, and daughters Wala, 6, and Majd, 1. The driver of the car, Mohammad Hussein Obeidat, who was also injured, and the rest of the passengers were all from the Obeidat family. The wounded were rushed to Ramtha hospital suffering from medium injuries, and two of them were later admitted to the Princess Basma hospital in Irbid.



Aid aircraft hit at Sarajevo airport

SARAJEVO (AFP) — Two U.N. planes were hit by small arms fire late Friday at Sarajevo airport, the first aircraft to be hit since flights resumed Thursday after a two-week shutdown, U.N. officials said. U.N. Protection Force spokesman Chiric Grimes said the aircraft had gone on orange alert after two Ukrainian cargo planes were struck around 4:00 p.m. (1500 GMT), one in the tail, one in the cabin. No one was injured in the incident and the airport remained open, he said, although UNPROFOR and the office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees would assess the security situation before going ahead with flights Saturday. "Two flights were hit around 1600 hours as they landed on the runway," she said. "One was shot in the tail, one in the cabin." She added that the future of the flight Saturday remained unclear. Orange alert means pilots have the final say on whether to fly. The Ilyushin-76 were each hit by two rounds, said a U.N. source who asked not to be named. Ms. Grimes said it was unclear which side had fired the shots.

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U.S. says Iraqi army moving, warns Baghdad

Iraq asserts troop movements its own business; Kuwait 'alert,' expects U.S. help

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States on Friday accused Iraq of threatening Kuwait with a buildup of troops and mechanized divisions and said it was prepared to respond "to any act of aggression."

President Bill Clinton said he was taking "precautionary steps" to respond to the alleged buildup. "They should not be misled into thinking they can repeat the mistakes of the past," Mr. Clinton warned. "We are taking the necessary steps as a precaution to deal with this issue," Mr. Clinton said at a news conference. He said he would not immediately discuss details of the action.

Officials said the United States was sending an aircraft carrier towards the Gulf region in response to the movement of Iraqi troops towards Kuwait.

The officials, who asked

not to be named, said that U.S. army troops had been put on alert and were ready to link up with pre-positioned equipment in Kuwait on short notice.

Britain said it was sending a frigate into Kuwait. Iraqi opposition groups claimed Baghdad was apt to attempt a repeat of its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

A leading dissident said the move followed a "widespread" uprising within the armed forces which was aimed at overthrowing President Saddam but was suppressed.

The British Foreign Office said in a statement that it was following the reports and warned Baghdad: "Any action in contravention of U.N. Security Council resolutions would be a grave error of judgement."

Iraq refused to confirm or deny the reports of troop movements near the Kuwaiti

border, saying army operations within Iraqi borders were its own business.

"Iraq is not obliged to account for the movements of its army, its deployment and its activities," the Information Ministry said in a statement.

"Those who have something against Iraq... must know that nobody has the right to express himself on the movements of units of the Iraqi army and of its deployment within the nation's territory," the statement said.

It warned against drawing "prefabricated and illegitimate conclusions," apparently referring to fears of a repetition of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

Mr. Clinton told the news conference: "We know what they are doing. We have responded with necessary steps. We will report more as events unfold." Mr.

Clinton said he did not want to "read more into it than has actually happened." But he added, again, "we have responded with necessary precautionary steps."

He said the United States remains committed to U.N. resolutions against Iraq.

Questioned about the action, Mr. Clinton repeatedly cautioned against inflaming the issue, but added, "It would be a grave mistake for Saddam Hussein to believe that for any reason the United States has weakened its resolve on any issues that involved us in that conflict just a few years ago."

Asked whether he believed his foreign policy failures had encouraged Iraq to test U.S. resolve, Mr. Clinton pointed to the resumption of nuclear talks with North Korea after threatened U.S. sanctions and U.S. progress towards restoring democracy in Haiti. "In the case of Haiti, I

think it is absolutely apparent to everybody that it was the literal imminence of the military invasion which is leading to a peaceful transfer of authority there," he said.

"It plainly was the result largely of the credible threat of force that a diplomatic solution permitting that threat of force to be instituted into the country in a peaceful, rather than a warlike, manner, that resulted," he explained.

"So if those are the examples, I would think that Saddam Hussein would draw exactly the reverse conclusion than the one you outlined," he said.

Reports from Kuwait said U.S. military reinforcements were expected in Kuwait within hours.

The Kuwaiti defence ministry called up reservist soldiers on Friday.

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STROKE WHILE DRIVING: The car of a control of the vehicle. A 75-year-old customer man who was struck by a heart attack while driving stands in a local pharmacy Friday in Augsburg, Germany. The car crashed into the pharmacy after the driver collapsed and lost

Crown Prince returns home

Peace process should focus on human resources — Prince Hassan

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein on Friday received their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath upon their return from the United States.

The Crown Prince and Princess Sarvath landed in Amman where the King was spending the weekend.

In the U.S. Prince Hassan held a meeting with U.S. President Bill Clinton and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres at the White House.

The Crown Prince also addressed the 49th session of the United Nations General Assembly and held a meeting with U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali.

Prince Hassan stressed Jordan's central role in the peace process and underscored its efforts to establish a just, lasting and comprehensive peace that will ensure the restoration of rights, including Jordan's territorial and water rights.

Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath were also received upon arrival by Amman Regional Authority President Fayez Khasawneh and senior military and civil officials from Amman district.

Jordan's Ambassador in Washington and head of the Jordanian delegation to the Jordanian-Israeli peace talks Fayez Tarawneh said Thursday the Crown Prince's visit

was successful.

Prince Hassan's meeting with President Clinton and Mr. Peres would have positive reflections on the entire peace process in the region, Dr. Tarawneh said.

In a radio interview with Radio Jordan, Dr. Tarawneh described Jordan's role in the peace process as pivotal, saying that it was essential for any economic map in the Middle East.

On the Crown Prince's talks with President Clinton, Dr. Tarawneh said they covered issues of common interest, including the revitalization of the joint Jordanian-American committee, working out features of the agenda of the next Jordanian-American meeting which will be held in Amman.

Crown Prince Hassan said Friday the peace process should have the humanitarian dimension as its focal point.

In an interview with Jordan Television broadcast shortly after his return from the U.S., the Crown Prince said there was great hope that many important issues facing the region, including the problem of unemployment, would be resolved through concentrating on the humanitarian dimensions.

At the same time, Prince Hassan said, countries involved in the peace process should also draw up plans for developing the region's human resources.

In this regard, Prince Hassan pointed to a conference which will be held in Casablanca, Morocco, Oct. 30-Nov. 1 with the participation of major international bodies and economic and financial institutions and said Jordan will focus within this international investment framework on the provisions of the Washington Declaration on developing the Jordan Valley.

The Crown Prince said that he witnessed during his visit to the U.S. responses to his calls to bring about a comprehensive change in the way Islam is perceived in the world. "I believe that there is a feeling within the American administration and the U.N. and other sectors that religious discrimination issues should be targeted by the foreign policies of the U.N. and the international community, and I really hope that a practical programme at the cultural, information and academic levels would be launched in cooperation with the professional centres in Islamic countries as well as Europe and the U.S. to prevent a confrontation... Islam is not an ally of communism after the fall of the Berlin

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Israeli army ready with plan for Golan

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The Israeli army recommends a withdrawal on the occupied Golan Heights that would relinquish most of the plateau and Jewish settlements but keep cliffs overlooking Israel, the Haaretz newspaper said on Friday.

The newspaper published what it said were recommendations presented by the general staff to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. The report plan falls short of Syria's insistence on a full Golan pull-out in return for peace.

Spokesmen for the army and Mr. Rabin declined comment.

Under the proposal, the Israeli army would move to a north-south line stretching from a section of strategic Mount Hermon along the Jordan River to the Sea of Galilee.

A map in Haaretz showed Israel would hold on to a two-to six-kilometre wide band along the line, including cliffs overlooking the Jewish state. At its widest point, the Golan stretches about 25 kilometres.

Israeli opponents of a full withdrawal have cited Syrian shelling from the cliffs, prior to the 1967 Middle East war in which they were captured, as a main reason for keeping part of the Golan.

About 13,000 Israelis and 18,000 Syrians live on the Heights.

The reported plan puts the largest Jewish settlement on the Golan, Katzrin, inside Syrian territory. But it leaves Israel in control of the Hamma hot spring tourist resort and kibbutz Afik along a strategic junction in the south.

In three years of largely deadlocked talks with Syria, Israel has refused to specify the withdrawal it is willing to make on the Golan.

Israeli leaders say they first want to hear details of the peace Syria envisions. Israel wants full diplomatic relations, open borders and trade ties.

"The Syrian and Israeli opening positions are far apart from one other," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told Israel Radio in an interview broadcast on Friday. Mr. Peres said U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher would make a "supreme effort" to end the stalemate when he begins a new Middle East peace mission on Sunday.

A senior Israeli official said Friday he supported a total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan in return for peace with Syria.

Yuri Lubrani, coordinator

(Continued on page 7)

3 killed in Hebron in a week

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot dead a Palestinian who tried to stab a soldier on Friday in the West Bank City of Hebron, an army spokeswoman said.

"An Arab attacked a soldier with a knife, and troops then shot and killed the Arab," the spokeswoman said.

She said it was not known if the soldier was injured. Palestinian sources said the incident occurred near the Ibrahim Mosque, where a Jewish settler massacred more than 30 Palestinian worshippers last February.

The shooting raised to three the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli soldiers in violence in Hebron in the last week.

The Israeli news agency Itim reported Thursday that the mosque would reopen on Oct. 31.

A bomb exploded Friday in the southern city of Beer Sheva without causing casualties or damage, police said shortly after another bomb was discovered and defused there.

The device had been placed near the Muslim cemetery, police said.

Sharaa delivers letter to Clinton, insists on complete Golan pullout

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa hand-delivered a letter to U.S. President Bill Clinton from Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on Friday reaffirming Syria's commitment to peace.

Mr. Sharaa emerged from a meeting with Mr. Clinton to say Mr. Assad's letter pledged that "Syria would work closely with the United States as a co-sponsor (of Middle East peace talks) to accelerate the peace process and to achieve a just and comprehensive peaceful settlement in the region."

Mr. Sharaa reiterated that full withdrawal by the Israelis from the Golan Heights was essential to achieving Mideast peace.

"On your land, you cannot compromise," Mr. Sharaa said. "As long as there are any sort of occupation, then the other elements for peace, the other requirements for peace, cannot be met."

Syria's "commitment (to peace) should not be questioned," Mr. Sharaa said at a news conference later. He also said Syria would not attend an economic conference with Israel and Arab states in Morocco at the end of the month or other regional meetings with Israel until

peace is achieved. He did not provide any details about the "warm peace" he is reported to have held out to Israel.

Syria is demanding the return of all of the Golan Heights.

Mr. Sharaa said the peace formula must be "total peace for total withdrawal."

"On your land, you cannot compromise because if a part of your homeland would remain under occupation (it is) as though the whole country would remain under occupation," he said.

He added that most, if not all, Israelis believe "that without full withdrawal from Golan there can be no peace with Syria. Many of them are also convinced that without peace with Syria, there will be no peace generally or even peace in the region."

Secretary of State Warren Christopher flies to Israel on Saturday to begin his fifth round of shuttling between Israel and Syria since May. He has said he does not anticipate any breakthroughs.

He has said he hopes to "bridge the considerable gap" between Israel and Syria to reach an accord that

(Continued on page 7)

Cedras resisting pressure to leave Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE (Agencies) — Haitian strongman Raoul Cedras is resisting intense pressure from the United States to leave Haiti after stepping down next week, close associates said.

U.S. embassy spokesman Stanley Schragar repeats at nearly every press briefing that the army chief is not obliged to leave Haiti under an agreement signed last month. But he stresses General Cedras' departure would ease the process of bringing back exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

One U.S. source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Thursday the United States would be willing to help Gen. Cedras leave, if necessary.

But Cedras associates, who also spoke on condition of anonymity, say the 45-year-old general is influenced by his forceful wife, Yannick, who is adamant they remain in Haiti, and by Gen. Philippe Biamby, a fellow coup

leader who also is expected to step down Oct. 15.

With an army that feels betrayed by his decision to abdicate and a widely hostile populace, staying put appears to be a risky strategy. If they are pushed out, family sources say they would prefer to go to Spain, where relatives live.

Spanish Foreign Minister Javier Solana said Spain had received no request from Gen. Cedras for entry, and was vague about whether such a request would be granted. "Spain prefers to be part of the solution of the problem and not part of the problem," Mr. Solana said.

Also Thursday, the lower house of Haiti's parliament unanimously passed an amnesty bill that was part of the deal struck last month between the Haitian coup leaders and former U.S. President Jimmy Carter to avert a U.S. invasion. The measure goes to the Senate.

The U.S. Senate, meanwhile, told President Bill Clinton it wants a statement from him within seven days on the national security objectives of U.S. troops in Haiti and called for their withdrawal "as soon as possible."

And Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director James Woolsey denied the U.S. intelligence agency was involved last year in creating a right-wing militia that tortured and killed scores of pro-democracy activists.

This week's issue of the U.S. magazine the Nation said the CIA wanted the Front for the Advancement and Progress of Haiti to serve as a counterweight to the leftist Aristide (see page 4).

On Monday, U.S. troops sent to Haiti on Sept. 19 to prepare for Aristide's return stormed FRAPH headquarters in Port-au-Prince and arrested more than two-dozen members.

But FRAPH leader Emmanuel Constant, one of the most feared men in Haiti, was not taken into custody. At a U.S.-orchestrated news conference the next day, Mr. Constant renounced violence and called on Haitians to work together.

The Nation, a liberal weekly magazine, said Mr. Constant once was an employee of the CIA, which has long been hostile to Mr. Aristide.

During his years as a parish priest in the 1980s, Mr. Aristide strongly attacked the CIA and the Reagan and Bush administrations for backing Haiti's then-military rulers. After his 1990 election, however, Mr. Aristide moderated his anti-U.S. rhetoric.

Hundreds of Aristide supporters took to the streets of Port-au-Prince Friday in their first show of force since U.S. troops cracked down on paramilitary opponents.

The marchers assembled at

the St. Jean Bosco Church and wound their way along the crowded port area, past the U.S. embassy and on towards the presidential palace.

The last such march on Sept. 30 ended in tragedy when the procession approached the headquarters of FRAPH adjacent to the palace and a gunfight erupted.

At least five people were killed and scores wounded in that clash and it prompted the U.S. military to move more aggressively against FRAPH.

"We are not looking for trouble, all we want is peace and Aristide to come back," said one of the march organizers, Charles Dartailan, the secretary general of the Independent Confederation of National Trades Union.

U.S. soldiers in armoured personnel carriers shadowed the marchers, but there was no sign of trouble.

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Christopher and Sharaa hold talks

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Secretary of State Warren Christopher met with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa on Thursday to review prospects for further progress in the Middle East peace process.

Mr. Christopher returns to the region this weekend to resume his role as an Israeli-Syrian peace talks facilitator. The secretary will visit Israel and Syria, as well as Jordan and Egypt, before returning to Washington late next week.

Welcoming Mr. Sharaa to the State Department, Mr. Christopher singled out for particular praise recent statements by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and the foreign minister about Syria's commitment to peace.

"We'll continue to try to play our facilitating role, and we're very anxious to assist the parties in any way that we can," the secretary said at a stormy picture-taking session that was cut short when Israeli television reporters shouted at Sharaa claiming he had refused to submit to interviews on Israeli television or to deliver a peace message to Israeli television viewers.

"I've had many press conferences, and there was no discrimination whatsoever about the journalists attending those press conferences," Mr. Sharaa replied.

"We have been saying openly and since the Madrid peace conference that Syria wants peace and that, for Syria, is a strategic option," the foreign minister declared. President Assad, he said, has "made it clear that Syria is committed to a just and comprehensive peace in the region based on U.N. Security Council resolutions and international legitimacy."

"Syria is prepared to meet the requirements of peace, and those requirements should be agreed upon, and in the forefront of these requirements is the full withdrawal from the Golan Heights."

State Department spokesman Michael McCurry ended the photo session after journalists would not stop shouting and refused to be recognised in turn by the secretary.

Later, at his regular news briefing, Mr. McCurry described the Sharaa-Christopher meeting as a good opportunity to review issues related to the peace process in advance of the secretary's trip and the dialogue he expects to have next week with both Israel and Syria on their bilateral negotiating track.

Iraq says its food stocks running out, warns enemies

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said on Friday its stocks of food were running out because of U.N. sanctions and that it would retaliate against its enemies if a ban on its oil exports was not eased immediately.

"The stores of strategic food supplies are being exhausted as the embargo includes food," the ruling Baath Party newspaper Al Thawra said in a front-page editorial.

"What is required now is... an immediate removal of the embargo, allowing oil to flow again. Otherwise no one in the world would blame the Iraqi people and its leadership if they embarked on measures... which will give enemies a lesson."

It did not elaborate on what steps Iraq might take to counter the crippling sanctions which were imposed after its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Iraq's official press on Friday echoed warnings by Iraqi leaders a day earlier that Iraq's patience was wearing out and the coming days would be decisive in determining what action the government would take.

President Saddam chaired a leadership meeting on Thursday which warned the U.N. Security Council of unspecified consequences if it failed to give guarantees of a favourable review of sanctions on Oct. 10 when U.N. envoy Rolf Ekeus is due to report on progress in monitoring Iraq's arms industry.

Mr. Ekeus left Iraq on Thursday after announcing that the crucial long-term monitoring was officially in place. But he did not say whether monitoring was fully operational and also would not say when a test period would officially start.

He made clear to reporters that it was not yet time to give Iraq clean bill of health as he still needed to verify certain aspects of past weapons programmes.

The Security Council reviews sanctions against Iraq every 60 days, with the next session due in mid-November.

Iraq is suffering from dire food shortages and hyperinflation. Prices are far beyond the reach of ordinary people.

With sharp cuts in rations announced early this month, the Iraqis are talking for the first time of fears of starvation.

Iraq rejected a U.N. offer to allow it to export some oil worth \$1.6 billion to pay for urgent humanitarian needs, saying the conditions infringed on its sovereignty.

"The suffering of the Iraqi people shall not continue," warned Iraq's Foreign Minister Mohammed Saeed Al Sahaf in a news conference on Thursday.

Iraq hardened its stand towards the United Nations and the United States when it became clear to the government that it could no longer continue with its rationing system as before.

Last month, the government decided to slash rations of some items by about 50 per cent. The move sent prices sky-high and caused shortages of staple foods.

Al Thawra said Iraq's warnings were serious.

"There is no other path after Iraq exhausted all possible means to reach a situation that ends the embargo," it said.

The United States, which led multinational forces in driving Iraq's army out of Kuwait in February 1991, is lobbying for continued sanctions against Iraq.

Sharaa appears on Israel TV

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa promised Israel a new era of peace in his first exclusive interview on Israeli Television broadcast Friday.

The interview with Israeli Television's Arab affairs specialist Ehud Yaari was recorded earlier this week in Washington, after three months of negotiations.

Mr. Sharaa promised Israelis "an era of peace on (their) northern border ending any eventuality of a surprise attack."

The channel devoted most of its weekly magazine programme to the exclusive recorded soon after Mr. Sharaa gave a press conference for the first time by Israeli journalists.

He said Lebanon would also join an Israeli-Syrian peace pact, as there would be no more reason for an anti-Israeli resistance in the country.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher arrives here Sunday on a new mission aimed at reviving the stalled peace talks between Israel and Syria.

Chaotic Kabul faces disastrous winter

ISLAMABAD (R) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) plans to fly emergency medical supplies into Kabul within a week, but says a terrible winter awaits the city unless factional fighting stops and roads reopen.

"We will in the near future make a modest airlift to north and south Kabul to refurbish medical stocks which are near zero," Peter Stocker, ICRC head of delegation for Afghanistan, told Reuters by satellite telephone from the Afghan capital.

"But an airlift cannot respond seriously to the size of the needs," he said, adding that relief agencies had been unable to get warring factions to guarantee safe passage for road convoys.

"It's a very precarious situation. The last three weeks of fighting have definitely been the worst since the beginning of the year. It's been hell for the west of the city," he said.

Battles between Shiite Muslim factions, one backed by President Burhanuddin Rabbani and the other supported by his rivals, Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and General Abdul Rashid Dostum, erupted in mid-September, devastating parts of Kabul that had previously been relatively unscathed.

Mr. Stocker said 600 to 800 people had been killed and 17,000 people wounded, mostly civilians, in the fighting, which hit districts crowded with previously displaced people.

"The civilian population is living in terror," he said, recalling a rocket attack that killed 20 to 40 people at a wedding and another in which several medical students died.

"The city is divided and most people in the southern part are unable to reach the Karte Se hospital," he said. The hospital is run by the ICRC.

Surgical facilities in the southern suburbs had been reinforced, but seriously wounded people had to travel to Jalalabad, 125 kilometres to the east, for proper treatment.

Half of the 700,000 to 800,000 people still living in Kabul have shifted from their original homes and some have fled three times to escape the fighting. Many are dependent on the increasingly fragile lifeline of outside aid.

"We want to resume convoys and assist 100,000 identified people in a city where everyone is under very much stress," Mr. Stocker said, citing shortages of food, fuel and medicine.

He said prices had more than doubled in recent months and economic conditions were dire. "The whole town is looking with horror at survival for winter," he said.

The ICRC said eight days ago that the belligerents had ignored its ceasefire appeal, "showing total indifference to the fate of the city's most vulnerable inhabitants."

Factional fighting has killed more than 12,000 people in Kabul since guerrillas swept into the city after the fall of a communist government in April 1992.

Saudi envoy goes public in gems, murder cases

BANGKOK (AFP) — A Saudi envoy to Thailand, Said Mohammed Khoja, has gone public with his campaign to recover some \$20 million in missing jewelry and solve the murders of five Saudi citizens here.

Mr. Khoja told a packed ballroom at a Bangkok hotel Thursday night that at least four of the murders were linked to the missing gems.

He showed slides of the jewels and of the murder scenes, and what he said was a previously unscreened videotape made by Thai police of them laying out the jewelry on rows of tables.

But asked repeatedly to name names or at least say how high up the scandal went, Mr. Khoja refused, saying: "I do not want to reveal my hand."

He said he is writing a book about the affair that will tell all.

Among the new points Mr. Khoja revealed: — The jewelry stolen by a Thai servant from the palace of a Saudi prince in 1989 is valued at more than \$20 million. He stressed the "more than," indicating it is well above the previously released figure.

— The thief, Kriangkrai Techamong, took the jewels from seven shelves in a room in the palace after learning how to disarm the alarm system, and left behind the boxes in which they had been stored.

— Kriangkrai also stole \$500,000 and one million riyal (about \$267,000) in cash from a safe, from which he also took and destroyed documents.

— The "curse" on the big blue diamond, the key piece stolen, extends to all the jewelry, not just the pendant.

Mr. Khoja also reiterated that Kriangkrai told him he had acted alone and had sent most of the gems home via an international courier service.

Kriangkrai was caught, but only 20 per cent of the gems were returned and much of what was given back was fake.

Mr. Khoja noted Kriangkrai's trial lasted only one day and he received a royal pardon after serving two years and seven months of a five-year sentence.

"Who helped him?" he asked.

Mr. Khoja ridiculed the autopsy report that said the wife and son of a key suspect in the gems case had died in an auto accident. He said Darwadee and Seri Srinakhan were kidnapped by police and murdered.

The Thai Medical Council on Friday said police forensic chief Tassana Suwanjutha had acted "dishonestly" when he ruled their deaths accidental and had released incomplete autopsy results.

One slide Mr. Khoja showed was of officials posing before a plane sent to take the gems back to Riyadh in March 1990. He said the items taken from the palace weighed 90 kilograms, and that the man holding a box that allegedly contained all the gems did not appear to be holding that much weight.

Asked who wound up with the big blue diamond, Mr. Khoja replied: "Many people in this room know where the blue diamond is."

Among the guests at the dinner sponsored by the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand were Pratin Santiprabhob, who retired September 30 as police chief, and his predecessor, Sawasdi Amornvivat.

Both men had been accused in the case but not charged. Mr. Khoja said he trusted both men, and that he believes Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai is an honest man who is trying to end the affair.

Turning to the murders, Mr. Khoja said the three Saudi embassy employees gunned down Feb. 1, 1990, were killed because they had information about the missing gems, as did businessman Mohammad Al Ruwaili, who disappeared Feb. 12, 1990.

Mr. Khoja said Lieutenant Colonel Somkid Boonthanon sent a team of policemen who stopped Ruwaili's car and ordered him to come with them. He said the police took the Saudi to a farm in eastern Thailand where they killed him and burned his body.

He added that Mr. Sawasdi, who then was police chief, later admitted publicly that the police had killed Mr. Ruwaili.

Mr. Somkid subsequently "was promoted to colonel and made head of the (police) intelligence unit," Mr. Khoja said.

A fifth Saudi, Third Secretary Salah Al Malik, was murdered here Jan. 4, 1990, before the gems were recovered from Kriangkrai. Mr. Khoja has not linked his death to the missing jewelry, but insists that the case still be solved.

Also, reports have tied the deaths of the officer who initially investigated the case and a police sergeant who reportedly killed Darwadee and Seri Srinakhan to the missing jewelry.

Seven policemen and a civilian are on trial in the gems case, and several others have been accused in that and the murder cases.

Gaza antique collector offers precious booty to Arafat

By Nejla Sammakia
Agence France Presse

DEIR AL BALAH — When he bribed workers to loot Israeli digs on the beach under cover of night, Samir Abu Selim knew the day would come for the artefacts to furnish a Palestinian museum.

Now, Mr. Abu Selim has offered Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat his ancient vessels, coins, and oil lamps, in addition to many more antiques that he bought, often at great expense, over the past 30 years.

In return all he wants is a museum, named after his late father.

"I told Arafat our people must have a museum, they must learn about their civilisation," he said, proudly producing from a jewelry box a coin with the heads of Richard the Lion Heart and Saladin, his favourite item.

"I told him he was late. A museum and a knowledge of our history is even more important than other departments in the government."

Gaza, once a crossroads of great civilisations, is rich in historic vestiges whose value is generally unrecognised by its people.

Deir Al Balah was a pharaonic capital in the 16th century B.C., and Canaanite tombs were also found here. Gaza boasted important Mediterranean ports for the Byzantine Empire and successive cultures exploited the busy trade routes.

Gazans who have found ancient riches in their back yards often sold them for pennies to Israelis and to people like Mr. Abu Selim. Ancient jars and bowls are used to prop up a shelf or decorate a living room.

"It all began after Moshe Dayan visited our area, and searched the beach for remains," said Mr. Abu Selim, referring to the Israeli defence minister during the 1967 Middle East war when Israeli occupied Gaza and the West Bank.

An avid and unscrupulous collector, Dayan encouraged unofficial digs and bought from residents for his private enjoyment — some of the finest sarcophagi in the Israel museum came from Dayan's excavations in Deir Al Balah.

Until then, Gaza under Egyptian administration, was largely unexploited.

"The Arabs found it very resourceful to excavate and sell to Israelis who paid good money," said Yaakov Meshorer, archaeology professor at Jerusalem's Hebrew University.

"Dayan as a collector was ready to pay. As far as I knew there were no collectors like this among the Palestinians, they were dealers, not collectors," he said.

Except for Mr. Abu Selim, who hoarded his treasure away from the eyes of Israeli officials — or other Palestinians.

"At night, I used to go out with my workers and search the Israeli digs. I even used to give a little something to the Arabs working with the Israelis to help us, to pass on to me whatever they could lay their hands on."

A high school graduate and son of one of Deir Al Balah's largest landowners, Mr. Abu Selim, 51, always had enough men working his fields to give a hand — and money to buy old pieces.

"I would encourage Abu Selim to buy," said Salim Al Mubayed, a geography professor and archaeology scholar. He registered Mr. Abu Selim's important pieces with a view to a future museum.

"I would refer dealers to him, to keep the remains here, to prevent a drain of our culture. We had no way to control traders but I trusted Abu Selim."

Much of the collection is now on private display in a room at his sprawling villa a few miles away from the beach where layers of history were excavated.

Scores of Roman, Byzantine and Islamic oil lamps, Pharaonic statuettes and clay vessels clutter a shelf. A huge Greek urn stands in the centre of the room, surrounded by jars and marble basins.

Mr. Abu Selim envisions a museum built in his home town with profits going to improving the area's living standards.

Deir Al Balah, once a thriving market place, is today home to more than 50,000 refugees who settled here after the creation of Israel in 1948. Many live in squalid, overcrowded camps.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Qadhafi vows no recognition of Israel

TUNIS (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, slaming Arab states' moves toward normalisation of ties with Israel, vowed not to recognise the Jewish state, the official Libyan news agency JANA reported. "Libya is not preparing itself for recognition (of Israel), nor to lose Arab lands, nor to yield," Colonel Qadhafi said in a speech on Thursday quoted by JANA. "What is the logic of those (Arab states) who recognised the Israelis? Has Palestine been freed? Have the Palestinian people returned home? Has Jerusalem been returned?" Col. Qadhafi said. Morocco and Tunisia have decided to establish low-level ties with Israel with the aim of normalising relations. Jordan is negotiating a peace treaty with Israel and Arab Gulf states have agreed to remove the boycott of companies doing business with Israel.

Philippines, Iran sign bilateral agreement

MANILA (AP) — The Philippines and Iran have signed a bilateral agreement to improve relations between the two countries, the Philippine Foreign Affairs Office announced Friday. Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto Romulo and Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati signed the agreement Oct. 5 in New York, according to the announcement. "This is a new beginning in Philippine-Iranian relations," said Mr. Romulo in a statement. "We are glad to see Iran giving more attention to the South East Asian region." Under the agreement, the two countries will set up joint commission at ministerial level in the areas of economics, agriculture and fishery, mining and industry, trade, energy and petrochemicals, science and technology, sports and drug control.

Pro-Israeli militia chief wounded in Lebanon

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (R) — Guerrilla bombs wounded a top commander of Israel's South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia and killed two militiamen and two civilians, security sources said on Thursday. A bomb in the Israeli-controlled southern town of Bint Jbeil wounded Aql Hashem, the SLA military commander of the western sector of Israel's border occupation zone, the source said. It also killed two civilians and wounded five, they said. The extent of Mr. Hashem's injuries was not immediately known. The bombing was the latest in a series of assassination attempts by Lebanese guerrillas on a hated group of senior SLA officers. Mr. Hashem, a Shiite muslim, is one of the best-known and most hated members of the pro-Israeli force. A second bomb on a country road in the occupation zone killed two SLA militia men, the sources said. A spokesman for Shi'ite Muslim Hizbollah (Party of God) in Beirut claimed responsibility for both attacks.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Alice Au Pays Merveilles
17:30 Un Four Tous
18:00 Les Six Compagnons
18:30 News in French
18:45 Grands Galops "Magazine"
19:00 News in Hebrew
19:30 Black Beauty
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Bob
21:10 Murder she Wrote
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: "Leona Holmsteig: The Queen of Mea"
23:50 Homo Free

PRAYER TIMES

6:12 Fair
6:20 (Sunrise) Dula
11:23 Dhur
14:44 'Asr
17:18 Maghreb
18:35 'Isa

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church
Swellfish, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 63785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624950

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 641757
Ternassian Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 625256
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195
The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 649432
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691
The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Unstable weather conditions will continue with clouds appearing at different altitudes. There will be a chance of thunderstorm showers with winds southeasterly moderate. In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and seas choppy.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Min./Max. temp. Amman 19 / 34 Aqaba 28 / 38 Dabbs 17 / 33 Jordan Valley 24 / 40

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 33, Aqaba 38 Humidity readings: Amman 24 per cent, Aqaba 24 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Jamil Tarif 794710 Dr. Fayez Dabbas 759135 Dr. Youssef Rashid 896301 Dr. Nasser Ibrahim 683585 Fire pharmacy 661912 Fardous pharmacy 718336 Al Asama pharmacy 637025 Nairoukh pharmacy 623672 Al Salam pharmacy 636730 Yacoub pharmacy 644945 Shamsiah pharmacy 637660 Najib pharmacy 647432

IRBID: Dr. Zakaria Malkawi 218620 Alqada pharmacy (—)

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111 Civil Defence Department 661111 Civil Defence Immediate Response 630341 Civil Defence Emergency 199 Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777 Fire Brigade 617101 Blood Bank 775122 Highway Police 943402 Traffic Police 896390 Public Security Department 630321 Hotel Complaints 661176 Water and Sewerage Complaints 897467 Amman Municipality Complaints 787111 Pharmacy Information (directory assistance) 121 Overseas Calls 010230 Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101 Abdiel Telephone Repairs 661101 Jordan Television 773111 Radio Jordan 774111 Water Authority 680100 Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

HOSPITALS

AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 818131/32 Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6 Akilieh Maternity, J. Amn. 642411/2 Jabel Amman Maternity 642362 Malhas, J. Amman 636140 Palestine, Shamsiah 664171/4 Shamsiah Hospital 669131 University Hospital 648485 Al-Muasher Hospital 667277/8 The Islamic, Abdiel 666127/77 Al-Ahli, Abdiel 664164/6 Italian, Al-Muhajroos 77101/3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26 Army, Marik 891611/15 Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50 Anal Hospital 674155 ZARQA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)832323 Zarqa National Hospital 602240/50 Ibn Sina Hospital (09)900560 Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)909090 IRBID: Princess Basma Hospital (02)227555 Greek Catholic Hospital (02)27275 Al-Nabza Hospital (02)247100

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:30 Jakarta, Singapore (RJ)
07:45 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
08:45 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
09:15 Athens (RJ)
09:15 Dhahran (RJ)
09:30 Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
10:00 Colombo (RJ)
10:30 Vienna (RJ)
10:50 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
10:50 Cairo (RJ)
11:25 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
12:30 London, Berlin (RJ)
12:45 Amsterdam (add) (RJ)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:45 Beirut (RJ)
07:00 Amman (RJ)
11:30 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:35 Paris (RJ)
11:55 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:00 Amsterdam (add) (RJ)
12:15 Brussels (RJ)
12:45 Cairo (RJ)
12:55 London (RJ)
19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:00 Larnaca (RJ)
20:45 Jeddah (RJ)
20:45 Dammam (RJ)
21:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:30 Vienna (OA)
19:45 Rome, Larnaca (AZ)
18:15 Dubai (EK)
19:00 Sanaa (YV)
19:20 Cairo (MS)
19:30 Paris, Damascus (AF)
21:25 Amsterdam (KL)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:15 Beirut (RJ)
13:50 Vienna (OE)
19:15 Dubai (EK)
20:45 Sanaa (YV)
20:15 Cairo (MS)
22:55 Damascus, Paris (AF)
09:25 Amsterdam (KL)

HAZAR RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman 8:00 a.m. every Monday
Arr. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every Monday
Dep. Damascus 7:30 a.m. every Sunday
Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kilo

Apple 700 / 400
Banana 680
Banana (Mukammal) 620
Cabbage 110 / 50
Carrot 300/200
Cauliflower 250 / 160
Cucumbers (large) 320 / 180
Cucumbers (small) 340 / 240
Eggplant 270 / 160
Gatle 1250/900
Grapes 320 / 280
Grapes (Hibwan) 600 / 400
Guava 340 / 200
Lemon 260 / 150
Marrow (large) 140 / 80
Marrow (small) 340 / 240
Mushrooms 170 / 100
Onion (green) 340 / 200
Onion (dry) 360 / 200
Sweet Melon 340 / 200
Pepper (hot) 300 / 200
Pepper (sweet) 300 / 200
Potato 320 / 220
Pomegranate 320 / 220
Spinach 280 / 200
Tomato 230 / 140
String beans 750 / 430
Watermelon 200 / 120

كلام الله

Kingdom calls for world effort in advancing 'peace education'

GENEVA (Petra) — Jordan's permanent representative to the United Nations' European headquarters here, Fawwaz Sharaf, on Friday stressed the importance of international cooperation in advancing "peace education", which seeks to enhance principles of human rights, democracy and international understanding and cooperation.

Addressing the 44th session of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) international education conference, Dr. Sharaf said the world faces great challenges as it approaches the 21st century. These challenges stem from social and educational systems, he said.

"To face up to them, the international community needs to develop its educational and cultural policies to respond to the requirements of the new era."

Educational policies, said Dr. Sharaf, should seek to achieve human development, enhance self-identity, respect

for human rights and peoples participation.

He added that education should also help develop new values capable of achieving a balance between spiritual and material values, and fostering principles of tolerance and better understanding among peoples.

Educational policies should also strengthen the humanitarian, global and democratic dimensions of culture and should encourage dialogue and interaction among nations, he said.

Dr. Sharaf noted that the Jordanian society is undergoing a process of social and cultural change, aimed at strengthening institutional systems, and enhancing principles of justice and public participation in human development efforts.

He said the Jordanian Constitution has ensured equality in rights and duties, as well as in job opportunities and education, and secured basic freedom, including freedom of opinion, thought and belief.



INSPECTING PROCEDURES: Interior Minister Salameh Hammad Friday inspects crossing procedures at King Hussein Bridge at the Jordan River. Mr. Hammad said his visit to the bridge was part of the government's efforts to facilitate travel procedures to and from the West Bank. He explained that foreigners wishing to cross to the West Bank no longer need to obtain a special permit from the Ministry of Interior, but can proceed directly to the bridge, where they can obtain the required travel permit (Petra photo)

Radiologists to review advances in technology

By Rima Cortbawi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The third scientific meeting of the Jordanian Radiological Society, to be held Oct. 10-14 at the King Hussein Medical Centre, "marks another sure step towards maintaining high standards in radiology," said Kamal Shalan, president of the society.

Since its discovery in 1895 by William Conrad Roentgen, radiology has revolutionised medicine.

This German physicist first observed the effect of an unknown radiation that he later called X-rays while conducting a laboratory experiment, according to Dr. Shalan. This sheer coincidence led to the science of X-rays (called roentgenology) which has contributed tremendously to medical technology.

Nowadays, radiology employs the use of X-rays, gamma rays, ultrasound and magnetic resonance in diagnostic imaging.

"Although this special field of medicine does not get enough recognition, most other fields rely primarily on radiology for diagnosis before appropriate treatment can be followed," said Dr. Shalan.

Imaging is needed to detect fractures, cancer, infections, diseases, dislocations, atrophies, tumours, traumas and developmental abnormalities, according to Dr. Shalan.

As well as imaging all the bones of the body, X-rays are used in imaging soft tissues, obtaining coloured (by contrast) investigations of the body organs like kidneys, stomach, intestines, veins and arteries.

"Also, computerised tomography (C.T.) — utilising X-rays, since its development in the mid-70s, presented a major milestone in diagnostic medicine as it enabled radiologists to view the inside of the human brain and all other body organs," said Dr. Shalan.

Unlike X-ray applications, the use of gamma rays in

nuclear medicine involves internal irradiation of the human body target tissues by injection of a certain radioactive material. "Detection of the emitted radiation is then employed to picture the internal body parts," said Dr. Shalan.

Having flourished mainly in the 60s, this method was mostly used to test the proper functioning of body organs, according to Dr. Shalan.

Ultrasonics are basically utilised for studying abdominal organs and the brain, but not bones.

"Being so far considered safe, ultrasound employment in obstetrics is favourable because it is not a form of radiation, and on this basis, unlikely to cause any related harm to body tissues," said Dr. Shalan.

However, high resolution imaging is best obtained by using magnetic resonance (MR) which surpasses all other methods for viewing the brain spine, in addition to its use in imaging all other body organs, according to Dr. Shalan.

The first qualified radiologist in Jordan was Ahmad Abu Koura, who, according to Dr. Shalan, specialised in the U.K. during the late 40s. "And since then, this discipline has been very successful in catching up with and following up on recent developments abroad," said Dr. Shalan.

C.T. machines were brought to the country around 1976, and modern MR imaging machines are available in several medical institutions such as the King Hussein Medical Centre, the Islamic Hospital and Al Khaldi Hospital.

During the conference, seven lectures from the U.S., the U.K. and Sweden will discuss modern advances in radiological technology and diagnostic imaging. "Recent valuable medical information will be shared by experts in their fields. This is vital for ensuring high standards of medical facilities in the country," Dr. Shalan concluded.

HUDD delegation leaves to Abu Dhabi

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation, led by Housing and Urban Development Department (HUDD) Director Yusuf Hiyasat, left for Abu Dhabi Friday evening to take part in a preparatory meeting for a United Nations Habitat conference to take place in 1996.

The delegation will present a working paper dealing with decentralisation and the role of municipalities in local government, Mr. Hiyasat told the Jordan Times earlier Friday.

The Abu Dhabi meeting which is attended by Arab delegations is the second Arab preparatory meeting for the Habitat conference which is scheduled to be held in Turkey, he said.

The first was held last March. Another preparatory meeting was held at the international level in Geneva last April, according to Mr. Hiyasat.

At the five-day Abu Dhabi event, opening Sunday, the Arab delegations are expected to seek a collective stand to be adopted at the Turkey conference concerning housing, sustainable development and the environ-

ment, said the HUDD director.

He said that in Turkey, participants will discuss Habitat issues of the next two decades in view of the recent reports on the miserable housing situation worldwide.

He added that reports have indicated that more than a billion people in the world lack proper housing, more than 100 million have no shelter whatsoever and most cities of the world suffer from population inflation compounded by poor municipal and other basic services.

Mr. Hiyasat's departure to the Abu Dhabi meeting coincided with the announcement by HUDD plans to carry out the second phase of the Abu Nuseir housing estate for government employees.

The announcement said that 400 dunums of land will be utilised to build the units adding that HUDD will build infrastructure as well as social services and community centre buildings at a total cost of JD 1 million.

HUDD said that after completion of the infrastructure, land will be offered for sale to government employees to build homes.

Jordan, PLO to discuss overland mail service

By Cathy King
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — One of the issues to be discussed during talks between Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Jordanian officials to be held this week in Amman is the introduction of an overland mail service between Jordan and the occupied territories. Minister of Communications Hashem Dabbas told the Jordan Times Friday.

Mr. Dabbas would not say if the Jordanian plan had been completed or when it was likely to be implemented.

"No agreement has been reached yet. The discussions are still going ahead and will be continued when the PLO delegation arrives here this week," Mr. Dabbas said.

"We have a lot of work to do with the authorities before we implement a service ... if all parties involved come to an agreement, it will not be difficult

(to activate)," he told the Jordan Times.

The minister noted that postal communications must first be arranged with the Palestine National Authority (PNA) before any decisions are made regarding the occupied territories, he said.

He hopes that Monday's meeting with PLO officials will clarify issues.

While there is still Israeli physical presence in the areas currently undergoing the transition to Palestinian self-rule, Israeli approval of a postal service will also be required.

Mr. Dabbas said that the introduction of a Jordanian-Israeli mail service would be debated by all committees involved in the realisation of principles set down in the Washington Declaration signed by His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on July 25.

Direct telecommunication links between Jordan and the Jewish state were

opened on Aug. 8 fulfilling recommendations of the declaration.

It was originally supposed by Jordanian officials that direct telecommunication links would include a postal service as well. But the agreement of August stopped short of coordinating a trilateral mail operation and only telephone lines were opened.

Jordanian peace talks delegation spokesman Marwan Muasher said last week that Jordanian-Israeli bilateral negotiations held here did not refer to a Jordanian postal link.

"We have not discussed the issue with Israel yet," he said.

Sources told the Jordan Times that the Jordanian plan for an overland postal service with Palestinian territories has been completed and submitted to the Cabinet.

Following Cabinet approval of the plan, PNA acceptance is required.

Pakistani trade delegation arrives to explore Jordanian market

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A Pakistani trade delegation arrived in Amman Friday to meet with private sector industrialists and investors.

The group is scheduled to meet with the Chamber of Industry, Chamber of Commerce, Jordan Export and Development Corporation and the investment board.

Pakistan wants to examine the Jordanian market for the possibilities of exporting non-traditional products to the Kingdom, said Shawkat Mukaddam, first secretary of the Pakistan embassy here.

Pakistan's exports to Jordan consist mainly of rice, textiles, industrial oils, sugar and sugar by-products as well as leather goods. Its annual volume of

trade with Jordan is approximately \$12 million.

According to Mr. Mukaddam, Pakistani statistics show that exports from the country that landed at Aqaba during 1993 were worth \$63 million, including transshipments to neighbouring countries.

Pakistan also wishes to increase bilateral trade with Jordan, said Mr. Mukaddam, who noted the Kingdom's increasing regional importance in the wake of the progress made in the almost three-year-old Arab-Israeli peace process.

"This region is going to be economically prosperous," Mr. Mukaddam said. "So we wish to establish an ongoing process that will lead to greater trade and investment."

The delegates will be in Amman from October 7-11

to meet any interested Jordanian businessmen.

Jordanian-Pakistani economic ties were given a boost in July this year when the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) and the Faoji Company of Pakistan finalised an accord under which the JPMC would supply phosphoric acid to a \$370 million Faoji fertiliser plant in Pakistan.

The JPMC is a minority shareholder in the venture, which will produce 445,000 tonnes of diammonium phosphate and 550,000 tonnes of area every year.

It was the most significant agreement signed between Pakistan and Jordan, which enjoy traditionally strong political relations but have little to show in the way of close economic interaction.

Youth advocates call for wise freedom of thought, independence

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Youth independence and liberal thoughts rather than depending on their families or tribes are what participants to the "Youth and the Family" conference called for upon its conclusion here Friday.

About 100 participants of a two-day conference organised by the Young Christian Women's Association (YWCA) in cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the youth association at the YWCA and the marking of the U.N. Year of the Family.

Participants presented a list of recommendations that acknowledged the importance of the youth sector in the community since "they represent half the popula-

tion," and that youth should be free to express their thoughts and opinions so that "they can deal with their own problems and what they might face, wisely and logically, hence, not forgetting at the same time their culture and traditions."

They also called on the media and educational institutions to play an effective role in increasing parents' awareness of the importance of youth participation in decision making in the home, and support them in depending on themselves.

The list of recommendations also called on youth institutions to focus on learning better ways to communicate with the younger generation and absorb their needs and demands and respect them.

Equality among youth is also important, the paper said, and there should be no discrimination between males and females, rich and poor, and institutions should increase their attention in the poor and rural areas.

Participants, who represented governmental and non-governmental organisations, clubs, youth associations, university professors and sociologists, also stressed the role of the non-governmental organisations

and the volunteer societies in helping the youth make use of their energy properly to benefit their society.

They also recommended contacting international organisations responsible for offering financial and technical support and asking them for assistance for the youth organisations in Jordan.

They saw a necessity in contacting international youth organisations to exchange experience and learn other ways to tackle youth issues and problems.

Finally, the participants stressed what Her Royal Highness Princess Rahma had called for in her opening speech to the conference Thursday, that is the importance of linking youth and the family in accordance with "our Arab family's traditions and habits."

"Family unity is important, and we need to protect it no matter how much our society has advanced," said Princess Rahma, who deputised for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The participants' list of recommendations will be finalised by a committee appointed during the conference, and a follow up committee will study the paper.

Dutch doctors mix work, tourism on recent visit

By Rima Cortbawi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Having terminated their one-week visit to Jordan, a group of 50 Dutch physicians, accompanied by their spouses, leave the country today "after being introduced to both medical institutions and touristic sites," said Raouf Abu Jaber, honorary consul of the Netherlands in Jordan.

Organised by a small foundation known as START, established four years ago in eastern Holland, the visit "had medical, cultural and touristic value," said Rob Van der Sijde, a practising gynaecologist at the SMT Hospital in Holland.

Dr. Van der Sijde is also one of the four organisers of START travel group and one of the 20 specialists who joined the 30 general practitioners (GPs) for a series of training courses in Amman throughout last week.

"START's main objectives are to strengthen ties and build friendly and professional relationships between GPs and specialists as well as get practitioners acquainted with countries of interesting historical backgrounds," said Dr. Van der Sijde.

This trip is one of four yearly visits that so far included Egypt, Turkey and Morocco. "The GPs have been to all these countries for their training courses, but specialists base their decision to join on the nature of the courses and the destination of travel," Dr. Van der Sijde explained.

This year the courses involved surgery, intestinal disorders, urinal problems,

cardiology, antibiotics, gynaecology, communication between GPs and specialists and legal medicine.

"In between professional meetings, we had the opportunity to visit medical institutions, and our trip also included the Dead Sea, Jerash and Petra," said Dr. Van der Sijde.

The group Monday visited the Jordan University Hospital and King Hussein Medical Centre (KHMC).

"They are two totally different medical institutions. Jordan University Hospital is a random normal-standard hospital with average facilities, but I was extremely impressed with K.H.M.C.," said Mr. Van der Sijde, adding that he particularly admired the "remarkable" efficiency of the hospital staff.

The Dutch practitioners met with Jordanian specialists. "Hopefully interaction between us will be maintained by consistent follow-up so that medical benefits could be shared," said Bernard Van Driel, general surgeon at the SMT hospital.

The Dutch group said they chose to visit Jordan this year because of its rich historical and cultural background.

"Jordan has witnessed a range of extremely interesting cultures since 4000 B.C. It is the cradle of our Christianity. It is under the wise leadership of a King who has managed to keep this Middle Eastern country stable from a political viewpoint for over 40 years and is currently trying to secure regional peace. And as far as medicine is concerned, I think that health care here is very healthy," said Dr. Van Driel.

International book fair draws controversy over rejection of third world publisher

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Fourth Amman International Book Fair came to a conclusion on Friday but not without drawing a controversy sparked by the organisers' refusal to allow a third world publisher to put its books on display.

The third world publisher, who sent over 150 original titles to Jordan hoping to put them on display, complained that the organisers paid little attention to the nature of the books and appeared to have applied a law on originality to ban them altogether from the event.

At least one Jordanian publisher and bookshop owner said it was not the first time that foreign publications were rejected from the exhibition on the ground that they were not original works.

"But the actual reason is something else," said the publisher, who declined to be identified. "Many third world countries, India prominent among them, offer excellent books on science and technology at one-fifth or one-sixth of the cost of similar books from the U.S. and Europe."

As such, he explained, agents of similar European and American books make it a point to try to exclude the third world publications from the exhibition to avoid a race that they could

not hope to win.

Ghazi Saadi, president of the Union of Jordanian Publishers which organised the event under the umbrella of the Ministry of Culture, said exhibition regulations prohibited "similar books printed in two different places and different publishers" to be put on display.

"We turned down applications from publishers for entry into the exhibition because they were not offering original books," Mr. Saadi told the Jordan Times.

That is understandable, said P.N. Kala, marketing manager of UBS Publishers' Distributors Limited of New Delhi, one of the biggest publishers in India. "We have reprinting agreements with many worldwide publishers under which we print and distribute many international titles within India."

The only condition attached to such arrangements, Mr. Kala explained, is that the reprinted, cheaper versions are not sent out of India, which ranks as the world's third largest publisher of books after the United States and Britain.

UBS Publishers came and displayed its books in Amman several times in the late 80s. "In one or two instances, less than five per cent of the books that we displayed were from the reprint category, but we made it a point not to

include similar books any more in any international fairs," Mr. Kala told the Jordan Times.

This year, UBS sent three copies each of 150 titles to be displayed at the exhibition at the stall of its agents after being told earlier that UBS was not permitted to exhibition space on its own.

"We were told at the last minute that our agents were also not allowed to put those books on display on grounds that they were not original," said Mr. Kala, who insisted that none of the titles was a reprint or copy of foreign publications.

"We took pains to ensure that every one of them was an original work of an Indian author," said Mr. Kala. "There is no dearth of Indian writers on technology and science and we do not have to depend on foreign writers to produce books that sell."

Mr. Kala said a close look at the list of the 150 titles that UBS sent to Amman, now available with the publisher's agents here, "will prove that they are all original works from Indian authors."

Ministry of Culture Under-Secretary Mohammad Amairah said the ministry had little to do with the technicalities of the exhibition and referred all questions to the Union of Jordanian Publishers.

After a lapse of many

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of abstract art by Rafi' Nasiri at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of abstract art by Amer Fathi at Instituto Cervantes (Spanish Cultural Centre) (Tel. 610858).
- ★ Exhibition of abstract art by Ali Al Mismar at the Orfali Art Gallery, Umm Uttheina (Tel. 826932).
- ★ Exhibition of watercolours by Vladimir Tamari at Darat Al Funn, Jabal Luweibdeh (Tel. 643251/2).
- ★ Oriental pieces exhibition at Gallery Mariam (Tel. 824425).

- ★ Fourth Amman International Book Exhibition at the International Exhibition Centre, University Road (Tel. 650601).
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Dia Azzawi at Ab'ad Art Gallery (Tel. 862105).
- ★ Exhibition of oil paintings by Kamal Boullata entitled "Duets, Quartets, and a Triangle" at Darat Al Funn of the Abdul Hammed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing "permanent exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists" (Tel. 643251/2).
- ★ "The Diness Exhibit" — beginnings of photography in Jerusalem and the Holy Land at the American Center exhibition hall, Abdoun.



Residents of the central Bosnian village of Ticići gather to take a bath, do laundry and give water to cows. The general ceasefire in central Bosnia is reportedly being respected giving residents a chance to prepare for winter (AFP photo)

Azeri president appoints new premier

BAKU (R) — Azerbaijani President Heydar Aliyev Friday appointed Faid Guliyev to be acting prime minister of the former Soviet republic, a presidential decree said.

Mr. Guliyev, currently first deputy premier, will succeed Surat Huseinov, who was sacked Thursday after Mr. Aliyev accused him of taking part in a coup attempt in the northwestern city of Gyandzha Tuesday.

The Azerbaijani parliament voted to confirm the dismissal of Mr. Huseinov. Thursday's late night vote appeared to give Mr. Aliyev a decisive advantage over Mr. Huseinov, his only serious rival for power a year after the two men took control of the country.

A special session of the Milli Mejlis, or inner parliament, voted 31 to one with eight abstentions to approve Mr. Aliyev's decision to sack Mr. Huseinov and banish him from the Milli Mejlis itself. Twelve deputies did not attend the session.

Mr. Huseinov left the chamber after the vote and told reporters he was not planning radical action.

"I do not consider myself guilty. This is an act against me and nothing else," he said. "I believe I can find the truth about who is behind this."

The Milli Mejlis was due to continue the debate Friday evening. Mr. Aliyev had not been present.

Mr. Aliyev dismissed Mr. Huseinov at a top-level meeting earlier Thursday where participants accused the premier of staging an attempted uprising by rebel troops in Azerbaijan's second city.

Parliamentary Speaker Rasul Guliyev told deputies Mr. Huseinov should be sacked for "complicity in an attempted state coup, for not submitting to the demands of president and for serious violations committed in his work."

But Mr. Huseinov told deputies he had nothing to do with the uprising in Gyandzha — his power base — and took the opportunity to strike back at Mr. Guliyev.

"I didn't have information about what was happening," he said. "I know there were provocative forces at work during the events and among

them was Rasul Guliyev."

Government forces put down the rebellion for the cost of three troops killed, officials said. The turmoil erupted a scant two weeks after the signature of a \$7 billion deal with Western firms to develop its Caspian Sea oilfields.

Mr. Huseinov, still a member of the expanded parliament, vowed to stay in politics. He also called for a commission to investigate exactly what had happened in Gyandzha.

Mr. Aliyev made a televised address to the nation Wednesday urging Azeris to gather by the presidential palace to support him in the face of an "attempted coup."

He said "dark forces" backed by pro-Huseinov troops seized the airport and other strategic buildings in Gyandzha.

Mr. Aliyev, a former member of the Soviet Communist Party politburo and an ex-KGB general, earlier in the week used a two-day standoff elite OPON police troops led by the deputy interior minister to proclaim a state of emergency.

Rwandan Hutus rule out imminent invasion

GOMA, Zaire (AFP) — The chief of Rwanda's defeated Hutu army ruled out any imminent invasion by his refugee troops Friday, but warned that failure to reach a negotiated settlement could reignite the conflict.

That "could take us back to the beginning," Major General Augustin Bizimungu said, speaking in a banana grove near Zaire's border with Rwanda.

A political leader from Rwanda's Hutu majority warned meanwhile that the military chiefs would be forced to move if pressure from the displaced soldiers became too strong.

Gen. Bizimungu bristled at suggestions that the Hutu soldiers who were chased out of Rwanda by the victorious Tutsis might recross the border soon in a bid to destabilize or overthrow the new government.

"Four years of warfare is enough," said Gen. Bizimungu, who was chief of staff of the Rwandan army. He was referring to low-level clashes since 1990 as well as the bloodletting that engulfed the small central African nation earlier this year, when up to a million Rwandans were killed, most by Hutu militias.

"I believe in a negotiated solution," said Gen. Bizimungu, who is regarded as a key figure in any agreement on the return of the hundreds of thousands of Hutu refugees encamped around Rwanda's borders.

But the 41-year-old general, dressed in a pinstripe suit and black shoes, warned that "we have not let our guard down," and said the government set up by the minority Tutsis, who made up only 15 per cent of Rwanda's prewar population of some 7.9 million, had refused to enter into negotiations.

He was speaking on the outskirts of a small camp full of former soldiers some eight kilometres along a rutted dirt road from the sprawling Mugunga refugee camp, which houses 220,000 Rwandans, up to 30,000 of them also former soldiers.

Gen. Bizimungu was surrounded by bodyguards as he sat on a rickety wooden chair, sweat beading his forehead as he repeatedly denied any intention to lead his troops back across the border.

But he said the new government must accept power-sharing and provide minimum security guarantees for returning refugees — that they not be killed, and that they be allowed to reclaim their land and houses.

"We know how to fight the RPF (the Rwandan Patriotic Front)," said "but at the moment I believe that negotiations should result in an agreement. If not, that could take us back to the beginning."

Back in Goma, the Zairean town that is the hub of a network of refugee camps and orphanages holding more than 800,000 Rwandans, the head of the former ruling party said the refugee troops did indeed have the capacity to mount cross-border raids.

"If the pressure from the refugees becomes too strong, the leaders will be obliged to move," said Matthieu Ndirumpane, president of the MRND, the National Republic Movement for Development and Democracy.

Killing of Serbs casts shadow over Bosnian peace process

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — The killing and mutilation of 20 Serb troops by Bosnian soldiers threatens to derail a budding process of detente in Sarajevo, marked by a successful prisoner exchange and the reopening of the capital's airport.

U.N. officials said Friday they were angered and dismayed by Thursday's attack at the village of Ljac by a group of commandos from the Muslim-dominated Bosnian army, which U.N. special representative Yasushi Akashi said had cast a "dark cloud" over the peace process.

Many of the victims, who included four women nurses, were mutilated and burned according to a senior French U.N. officer who witnessed the scene.

Bosnian forces moved through the U.N.-monitored demilitarized zone (DMZ) on Mount Igman to attack the village, which lies just outside the DMZ, the latest in a series of violations of the zone which reached their peak at the weekend when some 300 were stopped by French U.N. troops.

UNPROFOR spokesman Lt-Colonel Bernard Labrousque said Friday 150-300 more Bosnian troops had been "escorted to the border" of the DMZ overnight, adding that U.N. forces had stepped up patrols in the

sector.

The killings came only hours after the completion of the biggest prisoner of war exchange in Sarajevo since a February ceasefire was signed, and a Serb agreement to allow the airport to reopen after a two-week shutdown.

Col. Labrousque said the airport was still on green alert — the lowest level — and that UNPROFOR flights were due to land as normal.

Kris Janowski, spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, said the UNHCR planned 10 flights from noon (1100 GMT), down from the 25 that had been planned.

Mr. Akashi said Thursday he hoped the commando-style raid would not scupper the airport agreement, but admitted it had cast "some dark cloud on the otherwise new process that was opening before our eyes" following the successful release of 293 prisoners of war.

A U.N. source here, who asked not to be identified, said U.N. Bosnia Commander Lt-General Sir Michael Rose was furious with the Bosnian government over the attack "to the point where he was contemplating military action against them, which is politically and militarily unfeasible."

Observers here noted that UNPROFOR has no man-

date to use force to uphold the DMZ, only the 20-kilometre heavy weapons exclusion zone around Sarajevo. However, U.N. troops can request close air support if attacked in the zone.

"Considering the timing it can be no accident or fluke thing. They are trying to keep the kettle boiling," said one source here.

"The Bosnian government is in dire straits. They want things to come to a head or at least some of them do. They want to provoke the Bosnian Serbs to the point where they will start indiscriminately shelling the city," and provoke a NATO response, added the source.

France voiced concern Thursday that the killing of 20 Bosnian Serb soldiers near Sarajevo could trigger escalating retaliation and urged the Bosnian government to condemn the attack.

A Foreign Ministry spokeswoman also said Paris wanted the United Nations Security Council to quickly urge restraint on the warring sides.

"France condemns the aggression committed this morning by Bosnian elements... which risks triggering an escalation of reprisals..." she said.

The first U.N. aid flight for 15 days landed at Sarajevo Airport Friday after Bosnian Serbs withdrew a threat to

fire at planes using it.

The airport reopened Thursday after Mr. Akashi negotiated with the Serbs but aid flights were delayed while security arrangements were checked.

The U.N.-controlled airport was shut after a NATO air strike against a Bosnian Serb tank near Sarajevo on Sept. 22.

Its closure disrupted efforts to get relief to the Bosnian capital's 380,000 population.

NATO ambassadors Friday gave the alliance's top official the go-ahead to appeal directly to U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali to urge a tougher air-strike policy in Bosnia, NATO sources said.

They said the ambassadors agreed to ask Dr. Ghali to back swifter air strikes against a wider choice of targets in response to Bosnian Serb attacks on U.N. peacekeepers or violations of safe areas.

At their third meeting on the subject in as many days, the envoys authorised Acting Secretary-General Sergio Balanzino to write to Dr. Ghali, recommending that he agree the new policy.

A NATO spokesman did not mention the letter but said that Mr. Balanzino "is in contact" with Dr. Ghali as a result of the meeting about the use of air power in Bosnia.

U.K. Labour ends conference with rallying call

BLACKPOOL, England (R) — Deputy Labour leader John Prescott Friday sought to erase the embarrassment of a left-wing rebuff to the party's leadership by urging activists to channel their energies towards ending 15 years in opposition.

Mr. Prescott ended Labour's annual conference, acclaimed by leader Tony Blair as a turning point for Britain, with a rousing call to

party members to forget internal differences over policy and concentrate on winning the language of the past and start practising the politics of the future," Mr. Prescott said in the final speech of a week he said had readied Labour for power.

"We are on the road to government," he told delegates. "This party owes it to people to win the next general election."

Mr. Prescott, a blunt-speaking union stalwart, is a key figure in Mr. Blair's crusade to overcome resistance of traditional supporters to dumping Labour's symbolic commitment in its constitution to widespread nationalisation, called clause four.

In a brainstorming speech, he told Labour activists they had nothing to fear from the debate Mrs. Blair has launched on a new "mission"

statement to take labour into the party into political campaigning in our communities," he said.

Mr. Prescott said the debate Mr. Blair has opened would be a chance to spark public enthusiasm for the party's beliefs.

"We will set out fresh our values, and explain them in a language that everyone can understand," he said.

Gunman dies, hostages freed in bank siege

HERZOGENTRATH, Germany (R) — A gunman who held customers and staff hostage in an all-night siege at a German bank killed himself Friday, after the last of his prisoners walked free, police said.

A police spokesman declined to say exactly how the gunman died at the end of the 14-hour siege in the small town of Herzogenrath on the Dutch border. Regional WDR Radio said he had killed himself by detonating a grenade.

Reporters said they heard an explosion and shots soon after the last hostages came out of the bank.

The raider, armed with guns and grenades, stormed

into the bank in a town-centre shopping area just before closing time Thursday. He took nine customers and seven employees hostage, demanding a ransom of two million marks (\$1.3 million).

Earlier police said he had taken 17 hostages.

Police said all the hostages were unharmed. Nine of them left the bank soon after the explosion, said Joachim Schuelke, police spokesman in the nearby city of Aachen.

He said the police had shot their way through windows to get into the bank from the rear.

"There they found the perpetrator," he said, adding that the man appeared to be a German aged between 45 and 50, but had not been identified.

The spokesman declined to

say whether the man had been alive or dead when police found him.

An ambulance pulled up to the cordoned-off bank and left at speed soon afterwards. Firefighters also entered the building, from which a small amount of smoke escaped.

Police had let down the tyres of more than 15 vehicles around the bank to prevent any attempt by the robber to escape by car.

Residents of the block in which the bank was situated said seven people remained in apartments above the bank during the siege. They stayed in contact with police, who told them to leave lights off and not reveal their presence.

The spokesman declined to say whether the man had been alive or dead when police found him.

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Mandela: S. Africa peace is in U.S. interest

WASHINGTON (R) — In an emotional speech to the U.S. Congress, South African President Nelson Mandela said democracy, peace and prosperity in his country "are as much in your national interest as ours."

The tall silver-haired statesman brought members to their feet in cheers when, quoting slain U.S. civil rights leader Martin Luther King, he said that with the end of white rule, the South African people had cried out, "free at last, free at last, thank God Almighty."

In a speech sprinkled with quotations from poets and laden with philosophy, Mr. Mandela said that given the will "humanity does in fact have the means to begin the creation of a new world order..."

He said great countries like the United States and institutions such as the World Bank and International Monetary Fund had to base their policies and actions "on the creation of a world of democracy, peace and prosperity."

Mr. Mandela spoke to a joint meeting of the House of Representatives and Senate following talks Wednesday with President Bill Clinton, who announced new U.S. aid to help South Africa rebuild under a Democratic government following years of minority white rule.

The South African leader saluted the role Congress played in helping to bring about the change by enacting economic sanctions against the former apartheid government — over the veto of former President Ronald Reagan.

Mr. Mandela said the question that arose as South Africa struggled to better the human condition was



South African President Nelson Mandela (centre) holds up his hands as U.S. Vice-President Al Gore and Speaker of the House Thomas Foley applaud, as Mr. Mandela prepares to address a joint session of the U.S. Congress on Capitol Hill (AFP photo)

opposition to apartheid, said his country "must deal with the real aspirations of those who were marginalised, who were oppressed, who were deprived."

Their expectations, actually, are not impossibly high. Many of them are not looking for a two-storey house with a swimming pool and two cars," Arch. Tutu said.

Apartheid's half-century grasp on South African resources created a huge unemployed and illiterate population. At least 40 per cent of the country's active work force is unable to find a job in the formal sector of the economy, which last year emerged from its worst recession this century.

"We've got to begin to turn their vote into something tangible: Into a house, into a job, into schools for their children, into security," said Arch. Tutu.

"We've got plans, but we're not seeing at the moment enough activity to make people see that it is better to live under a democracy than under a repressive government. We should move with very considerable expediency."

He praised the country's success in maintaining a stable democracy since emerging from apartheid six months ago. "We, of all countries, should have been torn to smithereens," the 63-year-old cleric said.

"Apartheid was based on the premise that people of different races and cultures could not cohere as a community... We ought to be given credit for the fact that, since April 27, we have been the one country in the world that is actually working towards unity and reconciliation."

Former King turned back from Romania

BUCHAREST (AFP) — Romanian authorities Friday barred former King Michael from entering the country after he flew in on a regular Air France flight from Paris, witnesses said.

The former monarch had been planning to ask for an entry visa on arrival but was not authorised to enter the airport terminal. After being allowed off the return flight to Paris, he was taken by bus to a Romanian plane but refused to board, an airport employee said.

King Michael of Romania then re-embarked on the Air France plane, which later took off behind schedule.

An opposition MP, one of about 1,000 people waiting at the airport to greet the deposed monarch, was given permission to shake his hand at the foot of the plane.

Authorities earlier said the deposed monarch would be turned back on his arrival as he did not have an entry visa and his visit was considered "inopportune," he had hoped to be allowed to stay several days to take part in a symposium of historians on his role at the end of World War II.

Supporters massing at Bucharest's Otopeni Airport greeted the former monarch and his wife Ana of Bourbon-Parma with flowers, banners and pictures of the deposed king, and shouting pro-monarchy slogans. Opposition MPs could also be seen among the crowd.

Security was tight around Otopeni where his plane touched down at 2:15 p.m. (1215 GMT).

Three anti-riot police cars were parked outside the airport and police were deployed inside and near the airport.

The 72-year-old former monarch, who was deprived of his Romanian nationality by the Communists in 1948, currently holds a British passport, for which there is theoretically no visa requirement to enter Romania.

The king featured on the front page of most newspapers in Bucharest Friday, many of which believed it likely that he would be allowed to visit despite the government's opposition.

However Romanian Television, whose director is the former head of the government information department, did not carry a word on the planned visit.

The former monarch, who was invited to address the symposium by figures in the Romanian opposition, told AFP in an interview at the weekend that he intended to enter his country "holding his head high."

The ex-king has only been allowed to visit his country once since the fall of the hard-line Communist Ceausescu regime in 1990 and that was in April 1992, for the Orthodox Church's celebrations of Easter. He was welcomed by huge crowds of tens of thousands

of people.

Michael of Hohenzollern, who was born at Sinaia, Romania, on Oct. 25, 1921, first came to the throne in 1927 on the death of his grandfather Ferdinand I, his father Carol having initially renounced his rights. A regency council ran the affairs of state until 1930, when his father decided to exercise his rights to the crown.

When his father abdicated, he came to the throne a second time on Sept. 6, 1940. On Aug. 23, 1944, Romania ended its alliance with Nazi Germany and sided with the Allies, a turning point in the country's modern history.

The king was one of the prime movers in the change, which contributed to the defeat of the Third Reich.

The refusal of Marshal Ion Antonescu, Romania's wartime leader allied with Hitler, to declare an armistice as the sovereign demanded, led inevitably to the use of force.

The then 23-year-old monarch had the marshal arrested and he was condemned to death by a court and executed in 1946.

When Romania's Communists seized power in 1947, the king attempted to hold on to his position but was forced to abdicate. He left Romania virtually at gunpoint on Jan. 3, 1948.

The former monarch's five daughters have repeatedly visited Romania on humanitarian missions.

Poll shows Fini ahead of Berlusconi

ROME (R) — An opinion poll published Friday showed Italy's neo-fascist leader Gianfranco Fini had outstripped Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi in the popularity stakes for the first time.

The survey by the Cirm Research Institute for L'Espresso magazine said 35 per cent of respondents named Mr. Fini as their choice to lead the centre-right in Italy against 27 per cent for Mr. Berlusconi. The other 38 per cent had no preference.

It was the first time that Mr. Fini, leader of the National Alliance Movement in Italy's "Freedom Alliance" coalition, had held a higher rating than the media magnate-turned-politician in an opinion poll.

The poll also showed that 57 per cent of the sample did not agree with the assertion that Mr. Fini and his movement were a danger to democracy.

L'Espresso, which will publish the results in its weekly edition Saturday, said the survey was carried out late last month after Mr. Fini announced his intention to dissolve his Italian Social Movement (MSI) party.

The party, founded by political heirs of wartime fascist dictator Benito Mussolini, is the core force of the National Alliance Movement the 42-year-old Fini founded in January for the March general elections.

Mr. Fini now wants the MSI to cease to exist and its members to be absorbed by the National Alliance.

Last July Mr. Fini was within a whisker of surpassing Mr. Berlusconi when an SWG poll found 21.4 per cent of Italians would vote for Mr. Berlusconi in direct elections for prime minister compared with 20.3 per cent for Mr.

Mr. Fini's rating in that SWG survey was up from 8.7 per cent in February while Mr. Berlusconi's dropped from just over one third.

Meanwhile Italy's finance police searched the headquarters of Mr. Berlusconi's Fininvest company in the early hours of Friday morning, company officials said.

The media group is caught up in a number of investigations into possible corruption. Officials declined to give further details on the police action.

Milan's chief prosecutor Francesco Saverio Borrelli, who heads the city's team of anti-graft magistrates, stirred up a storm Wednesday when he said investigations into Teletipi, a pay TV channel part-owned by Fininvest, risked reaching "high levels" in politics and finance.

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GENEVA (R) — Police stepped up security for doomsday cult leader Jean-Marie Le Pen Friday as he mounted that at the 53rd summit of the 53 sun worshippers in Switzerland, Canada had been dead in Switzerland.

Police raided Geneva, the headquarters of the Order of the Temple cult, and seized a number of documents associated with the cult, including newspaper clippings and a letter from Jean-Marie Le Pen.

Investigating Judge Jean-Pascal Jodet said the cult was associated with the Order of the Temple, a doomsday cult associated with the Order of the Temple, a doomsday cult associated with the Order of the Temple.

They said the ambassadors agreed to ask Dr. Ghali to back swifter air strikes against a wider choice of targets in response to Bosnian Serb attacks on U.N. peacekeepers or violations of safe areas.

At their third meeting on the subject in as many days, the envoys authorised Acting Secretary-General Sergio Balanzino to write to Dr. Ghali, recommending that he agree the new policy.

A NATO spokesman did not mention the letter but said that Mr. Balanzino "is in contact" with Dr. Ghali as a result of the meeting about the use of air power in Bosnia.

China flexes nuclear muscle with new test

BEIJING (R) — China flexed its nuclear muscle on Friday when it conducted its second test of a hydrogen bomb, its second test of a hydrogen bomb, its second test of a hydrogen bomb.

China's Foreign Ministry spokesman said the test was conducted in the Xinjiang region, announced the test hours after the test.

The official news agency gave no details of the test, which took place one in June.

It repeated China's statement that it was restrained in testing nuclear weapons, but it also said it was firm in supporting its nuclear efforts.

The spokesman said that China's small arsenal of nuclear weapons was a deterrent to the complete of all nuclear war.

Early indications of the size of the explosion from an Australian geophysical centre, which recorded data from a medium-to-large ground nuclear test of Lop Nor region of Xinjiang.

The Australian Geophysical Centre in Canberra said an explosion of between 150 kilotonnes or 0.325 GMT. It was registered between 6.3 on the open-ended Richter Scale.

"Among all the states, China has the least nuclear weapons," Foreign Ministry said.

"It has always been a great restraint on the use of nuclear weapons, continue to do so."

Western analysts said China has conducted a test compared to the United States.

Other nuclear powers, including the United States and Britain, agreed to a moratorium on nuclear testing, but China's test was a comprehensive nuclear test, not a thermonuclear test.

China repeated its commitment to negotiate a ban treaty earlier.

"China is actively participating in the negotiation of a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty," said a Chinese official.

The official said the earliest possible date for the test was later than 1996, the Ministry spokesman said.

"China will put its nuclear tests on hold until the test ban treaty is in effect," he said.

An Asian diplomat, who became a nuclear power in 1964, was the first to test a nuclear weapon, and at least two more tests were planned for the 1990s.

Swiss step up hunt for cult leader

GENEVA (R) — Swiss police stepped up their search for doomsday cult leader Luc Joutet Friday as speculation mounted that at least some of the 53 sun worshippers found dead in Switzerland and Canada had been murdered.

Police raided addresses in Geneva, the headquarters of the Order of the Solar Temple cult, and elsewhere, interviewing a number of people associated with the group and seizing documents, Swiss newspapers said.

Investigating magistrate Jean-Pascal Jacquemet told Swiss Radio that Belgian national and homeopathic Doctor Joutet and his shadowy associate Joseph Di Membro had been seen late Tuesday in the Alpine hamlet of Salvan where 25 of the dead were found only a few hours later.

"We still don't know if they are among the victims," he said. He refused to say if he had issued any arrest warrants.

Police chiefs from Salvan and Chieri, a farming community 160 kilometres to the north where a further 23 bodies were discovered, were due to meet later Friday in Lausanne to pool information on the sect, and events leading up to the deaths.

The dead identified to date were from Canada, France

and Switzerland. Six were children.

In Canada, police found three new corpses in a burnt out house overnight — including that of a baby — taking the cult death toll there to five.

First autopsy results in Switzerland Thursday showed that at least some of the dead had been drugged.

"The signs on the victims make us believe that a powerful product, not yet identified, was administered," investigating magistrate Andre Piller said of the Chieri bodies.

Three rifles had been found near the dead. But police said none of them fired the shots that most of the dead people, plastic bags tied over their heads, had suffered.

"At or the hypothesis of a collective suicide... certain elements make us stay with this but others make us think of an execution. We cannot exclude one or the other," Mr. Piller said.

He said some material gathered on the isolated mountain farm where the bodies were found appeared to confirm that the members of sect had died willingly.

"We found a letter on one of the persons addressed to a member of their family in

which they said they were coming to Switzerland to die," he said.

Police in Salvan, where the 25 bodies were found in smouldering pyres, also rejected the idea of mass suicide.

"It would be more proper to talk of a collective murder than a suicide. Even if there was a suicide, people must have been led to it by psychosis or hypnosis," local canton police chief Bernard Geiger said.

A fireman who brought several bodies out of a chalet gutted by fire said many of the dead there had "beatific smiles" on their faces.

In one room, a man and a woman lay side-by-side on a bed holding hands. Next door a boy of about six and a teenage girl also lay in a peaceful pose of total relaxation.

In Chieri, on the red satin clad walls of a temple hung a Christ-like figure with long hair and a beard, which had been Joutet. Cabalistic symbols including sun and moon shapes, a rose and icons adorned the temple.

At the other Swiss site, firemen found a shed converted into a similar red-decked temple. Both temples had a round table at the centre with a golden chalice

standing in the middle.

Mr. Piller said police had issued arrest warrants, but he refused to say how many and for whom.

Fuelling the suicide theory, Swiss historian and cult expert Jean-Francois Mayer told Swiss Radio he had received a letter bearing all the hallmarks of the cult and which explained there had been a suicide pact.

"We are leaving this earth to rediscover, lucidly, freely, a dimension of truth and absolute truth, far from the hypocrisy and the oppression of this world, in order to produce the seed of our future generation," Mr. Mayer quoted it as saying.

But newspapers, who also received copies of that letter, reported that they also received a second one which they said flatly contradicted the submissive tone of the first.

They said it railed against the "barbaric behaviour" of Joutet and accused him of betraying the sect's principles.

Both letters were postmarked from Geneva after the bodies were found.

In Canada too, friends and colleagues of some of the dead flatly rejected the idea that they could have committed suicide.

مكتبة لائل



Police search through the rubble in one of the mass suicide of 53 doomsday cult members three burned out chalets following alleged (AFP photo)

China proposes new Hong Kong legislature

BEIJING (R) — China, which has vowed to dismantle Hong Kong's legislature after it takes over the British colony in 1997, said Friday it would set up a replacement even before sovereignty is transferred.

"A civil legislative committee will be set up in Hong Kong before July 1, 1997, to oversee the major areas currently being supervised by the Legislative Council of Hong Kong," the official China Daily said.

"China was compelled to initiate this move after the

British Hong Kong government closed the door to any co-operation with China," it added.

China's move appears to bear out fears that the current Hong Kong administration will become increasingly a lame-duck government as Beijing's takeover approaches.

China was infuriated when Hong Kong Governor Chris Patten proposed democratic reforms for the British colony.

Months of negotiation failed to achieve any com-

promise on Mr. Patten's package, which China insists runs counter to previous agreements between London and Beijing.

China stated categorically that any legislature elected under the Patten plan would not survive a day under its rule, now less than 1,000 days away.

The China Daily quoted Xiao Weiyun, head of the political panel of a Chinese-appointed body planning the takeover, as saying the new civil legislature committee would have broad powers.

Nasreen refuses new French visa offer

PARIS (AFP) — Bangladeshi writer Taslima Nasreen, under a death threat from Bangladeshi Muslim fundamentalists who accuse her of blasphemy, has turned down a new visa offer by the French government amid an uproar over her case.

The journalists' group Reporters Sans Frontières, which campaigns for the rights of writers and journalists, Friday quoted Ms. Nasreen as saying, "I will not come to Paris."

Speaking on the phone from her home in Sweden, the 32-year-old writer did not however rule out coming to France in a few weeks' time "provided I can travel about and meet the same people originally scheduled."

Mr. Pasqua said if Ms. Nasreen "wants to come for a few days, there is no problem," but that French authorities would have to "take some precautions."

Mr. Pasqua was speaking after a meeting with French Premier Edouard Balladur. "The prime minister is very willing for her to come for a

few days," Mr. Pasqua said. Ms. Nasreen had cancelled a visit to France Thursday after the French offered her only a 24-hour visa whereas she had wished to stay for a week. She termed the day-long visa an "insult."

The affair caused an uproar, with Foreign Minister Alain Juppe and Mr. Pasqua apparently trying to blame each other.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Richard Duche said the government had been in contact with Ms. Nasreen Friday and said France was ready to welcome the writer "for a stay of several days."

But there would have to be "close coordination" with security services, Mr. Duche said.

Reporters Sans Frontières, which was sponsoring the Nasreen visit, quoted her as saying Friday: "Why is France limiting my freedom of movement and expression? I want to meet intellectuals, writers and defenders of human rights."

"France is the country of freedom. I love this country

and I want to have access to its culture," said Ms. Nasreen, who was given refuge in Sweden last August after being sentenced to death by a Bangladesh Islamic fundamentalist group.

Explaining the original visa decision, Ms. Pasqua claimed his ministry thought 24 hours was long enough to take part in a television show, which was scheduled for Friday night.

He also said assuring Ms. Nasreen's security was not difficult, but that "demonstrations" might affect "the security of the French people."

The French government also "made it impossible" for writer Salman Rushdie to visit France this summer.

Fernando D'Souza, who heads the International Committee for the Defence of Salman Rushdie, said Mr. Pasqua "made it impossible for Mr. Rushdie to travel to France in any acceptable way by imposing the most extraordinary measures, which no other country insists upon."

Cardoso declares victory in Brazil polls

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP) — Fernando Henrique Cardoso has declared victory in Brazil's presidential election and pledged to open the world's 10th largest economy to foreign investors.

With roughly half of 95 million votes counted from Monday's election, Mr. Cardoso had 54 per cent, confirming exit polls that declared him winner of the eight-candidate race.

In his first press conference since the vote, Mr. Cardoso said his top priority when he succeeds President Itamar Franco on Jan. 1 will be to keep inflation down. As finance minister, he authored a plan that cut inflation from 50 per cent a month in June to 1.5 per cent in September.

"With the reduction of inflation we have resumed the path to growth," Mr. Cardoso said. "Now Brazil needs a new direction."

Mr. Cardoso said he would build an outward-looking, modern nation with more efficient government. He promised to eliminate government ministries and cut off spend-thrift state banks from federal funds.

The first step, he said, was to rally a coalition in Congress to vote for amendments to the 1988 constitution that



Fernando Henrique Cardoso, Brazil's unofficial president-elect, speaks to the press at Brasilia's National Theatre (AFP photo)

would speed up the sale of state companies and permit tax, budget and social security reforms.

The incoming legislature of 513 lower house deputies, 81 senators and 1,059 state congressmen promises to be much like the last one — a splintered group of 19 parties devoted more to interests of regional bosses than national problems.

Mr. Cardoso is expected to seek a coalition of his centre-left Brazilian Social Democracy Party and the far-right Liberal Front and Democratic Workers Parties that backed his campaign.

Privatising smaller state companies as well as Vale Do Rio Doce, Latin America's largest mining company, could eliminate an expected \$10 billion deficit in next year's national budget, he said.

Known throughout the northern Haiti as the most violent of the paramilitary plainclothes police, known as attaches, Ticoyo was captured in this mountain town by a group of supporters of exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the military sources said.

An Army medic said Ticoyo was recognised when he sought medical attention for a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the buttocks.

One Green Beret source said Ticoyo had been arrested by Haitian army units last month but escaped on Sept. 21.

Russian performs lung surgery at nearly 90

ST PETERSBURG, Russia (R) — A Russian physician who performed a lung operation just three days short of his 90th birthday has entered the Guinness Book of Records as the world's oldest practising surgeon. Dr. Fyodor Uglov, a cardiopulmonary surgeon at St. Petersburg's First Pavlov Medical University, continues after 65 years of practice to pioneer Russian medical advances. Dr. Vladimir Gritsenko, head of the university's surgery department, said Dr. Uglov recently invented an artificial heart valve. Dr. Uglov, who has written more than 600 scholarly articles, celebrated his birthday in a country where the average life expectancy for men is 59. "He doesn't drink or smoke and bicycles 80 kilometres a week," said Dr. Gritsenko.

U.K. films an overseas hit in 1993

LONDON (R) — British film shown overseas earned a net £208 (\$329 million) last year, boosted by the popularity of such runaway successes as Four Weddings And A Funeral, official statistics showed Wednesday. But British television programmes fared less well in 1993 with a net earnings deficit of £115 million (\$181.8 million), the government's Central Statistical Office (CSO) said. This compared with a film industry surplus of £172 million (\$271.8 million) in 1992 and a TV company deficit of £123 million (\$194.4 million) in the same year. The success of British films in recent years has given a shot in the arm to Britain's flagging movie industry. Last month, two top Hollywood directors announced they were buying Britain's legendary but declining Shepperton Film Studios, in southwest London, to attract blockbuster movies. British-born Ridley Scott, director of Alien and Blade Runner, and his brother Tony, who made Top Gun and Beverly Hills Cop II, said they wanted to transform Shepperton into a top world studio.

Indian judge risks wrath of millions

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Would a God-fearing Frenchman ban the bague? Non. Would a patriotic American outlaw apple pie? Nope. Would a German scrap sauerkraut? Nein. Would an Indian risk vilification and the wrath of millions by calling for a ban on one of the country's favourite treats. You bet. New Delhi judge C.K. Chaturvedi has flown in the face of danger and asked the government to outlaw pan masala — a savoury made with betel nut, tobacco and sugar — for health reasons. The magistrate said, pan masala, eaten daily by millions of Indians, caused "toxicity" and "crippled genes, the core of a human being's existence." His 17-page appeal claimed the government was "playing with the lives of consumers," and that warnings on the sachets and tins in which pan masala is sold "was an unprincipled compromise." Judge Chaturvedi said pan masala was also being eaten by children without parental permission and by hordes of illiterates who could not read the warnings, and were unaware of its dangers. Pan masala is a variant of pan, a popular digestive. Gourmets say the best taste is obtained by chewing it slowly and keeping the spittle in the mouth before spewing it out. Blood red stains on pavements, staircases and walls are common throughout India — a result of the national obsession with pan and pan masala.

Reggae singer arrested after shooting incident

PARIS (AFP) — Ivory Coast reggae singer Alpha Blondy was arrested Monday after firing a gun in the street in his latest brush with the French law, officials said. The singer, who earlier this year spent four months in a Paris psychiatric clinic, was arrested in his home after the incident in which nobody was injured. He was taken to a police psychiatric unit. Earlier this year Blondy was arrested after going on the rampage in his car. He returned to his native Abidjan in mid-August after spending four months in a Paris psychiatric unit.

U.N.: East European men face health crisis

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Murder, malnutrition and heart disease are killing Eastern European men at a rate which threatens to erode political reforms, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) said Friday.

EF report of nine communist countries in 1989 and 1993 showed dissatisfaction, a decline in living conditions, the rise of poverty and an explosion of violent crimes which in some cases outdistanced even the United States.

"This crisis is contributing to eroding political support for the reforms that are underway," UNICEF Director James Grant told a news conference.

"We see growing dissatisfaction with the reform process because it's being associated with the decline in living conditions," he said.

Mr. Grant said the main casualties were men between the ages of 30 and 59, and the

primary causes of death were violent, especially in Russia where the murder rate in 1992 was twice that of the 10.2 per 100,000 recorded in the United States.

The UNICEF report monitored conditions in Russia, Ukraine, Albania, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Poland and Romania.

It said that excess mortality in these countries in the four years covered by the report totalled 800,000.

"This is more people than the United States and the United Kingdom lost in World War II," Mr. Grant said. "This health crisis is unprecedented in the peacetime history of Europe in this century."

The period following 1989 saw huge upheavals in Eastern Europe as the Berlin Wall came down. Communists were thrown out of power, the Soviet Union ceased to exist and people were catapulted from command to market economies.

Many people felt lost and anxious watching familiar institutions crumble and new phenomena like unemployment take their place, the report said.

This resulted in a loss of national pride and a sense of pointlessness in everyday life, contributing to a rise in drinking, smoking and ailments like alcohol psychosis and cirrhosis of the liver.

Mr. Grant said that as alcohol consumption went up, the quality control of spirits fell and the alcohol consumed became more and more lethal.

Health was also deteriorating because of the quality of food. People are consuming fewer proteins and fat due to a shortage of milk, fresh fruit and vegetables, the report said.

The worst hit country has been Russia, which the report said experience more deaths in the four years surveyed than it lost soldiers during the 10-year Afghanistan War.

3 more India plague deaths reported

NEW DELHI (R) — India Friday reported three more plague deaths, raising to 55 the total nationwide of a three-week outbreak of the medieval scourge that sent tremors of panic around of the world.

A spokeswoman in the control centre monitoring the plague outbreak said the latest three deaths were in the west coast city of Surat, where the first fatality in an eruption of pneumonic plague was reported on Sept. 19.

The new deaths in Surat raised that city's toll to 52. The centre said there was one other death from plague-like symptoms in the western state of Maharashtra near its border with Gujarat, where Surat lies, but it had not yet been confirmed as a plague death.

Nearly 6,000 people have been rushed to hospital with plague-like symptoms since the outbreak began in Surat, but only 270 tested positive, the Plague Control Centre said.

Although 54 positive cases have been identified in Delhi, where the disease was carried when 300,000 people fled Surat, there has been no death from plague in the Indian capital for more than 10 days. Delhi's confirmed plague death toll remains three.

Government health officials say they are convinced

the outbreak is under control, and some foreign governments are cautiously lifting stringent controls imposed to keep the plague in India.

Some, mostly in the Gulf, barred anyone and virtually everything — including mail — from India to eliminate any possibility of the plague reaching them.

Most have now restored shipping links that carry valuable Indian exports, mostly foodstuffs, and have resumed restricted air travel.

But India is still seriously worried about its plague-damaged tourist industry at the start of the high season that runs from October through February.

It was expecting a record 2.2 million tourists in the 1994/95 (April/March) season and hoped they would spend nearly \$2.0 billion.

But many tourists have postponed or cancelled their visits to India — how many and how much India's money losses might be are still unquantified — and the government is taking urgent steps to rescue its faltering business.

It has already offered 50 per cent rate cuts in 36 government hotels for foreign tourists for a month from October 11 and is leaning on Air India, the state-owned international carrier, to offer similar cuts on tourist flights

to India.

The government is hoping private tour companies, hotels and foreign airlines will follow suit, and has scheduled a meeting with them in a major bid to win their support.

The first signs were not good. One big Indian tour operator called the discounts a gimmick, and foreign airlines said they were far from enthusiastic.

India is in its third year of radical reforms to its state-dominated economy, which is wooing the foreign investors it shunned for four decades.

It is thus desperate to convince a world scared by the mediaeval image of the plague that India is safe.

New Delhi accuses foreign governments of wild over-reaction to the plague, now easily cured with common antibiotics, and says the death toll so far in a population of 900 million is minuscule.

Hiroshi Nakajima, head of the World Health Organisation (WHO), was due to arrive in New Delhi Friday to see for himself how India was coping.

His visit could be crucial in India's efforts to cool global panic.

Mr. Nakajima is due to visit Surat as well as hold talks with Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao.

CIA allegedly paid FRAPH chief for information on anti-Aristide groups

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The head of Haiti's right-wing paramilitary group known as FRAPH was paid by the CIA to provide information on groups opposed to exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the Washington Post daily reported Friday.

Emmanuel "Toto" Constant's relationship with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency began shortly after Mr. Aristide was overthrown in a bloody military coup in September 1991, the daily said quoting unnamed U.S. sources.

The CIA dropped Mr. Constant early this year after it decided he no longer was trustworthy, the sources said. The Front for Advance-

ment and Progress of Haiti (FRAPH), created in August of 1993, has been blamed by human rights groups for killing hundreds of Aristide supporters.

U.S. forces in Haiti raided FRAPH headquarters in Port-Au-Prince and another stronghold in Cap-Haitien Monday, disarming and arresting 110 people, in a bid to defuse street violence that has plagued Operation Uphold Democracy since it began Sept. 19 with the aim of reinstating Mr. Aristide.

One CIA official said that reliance on such a notorious figure as Mr. Constant could explain the CIA's negative reports in the past on Mr. Aristide's mental state, which many of his supporters said

were skewed. The CIA's alleged ties with the FRAPH were denied by CIA Director James Woolsey in comments to reporters Thursday.

A senior intelligence official quoted in the daily said "the CIA has never had any connection with the FRAPH organisation whatsoever."

The same source also said the CIA had "nothing to do" with Mr. Constant's statements at a news conference Tuesday in Port-Au-Prince, in which he called on all FRAPH members to lay down their weapons.

The U.S. official also distanced the CIA from Mr. Constant's claim that a former U.S. defence attaché in Haiti, Colonel Patrick Col-

lins, had encouraged him to form FRAPH to "balance the Aristide movement," as reported in the Oct. 24 issue of The Nation weekly that was released Thursday.

U.S. officials told the daily that Col. Collins hotly denied Mr. Constant's account during questioning Thursday, saying that in his contacts with the FRAPH leader he strictly followed U.S. embassy guidance that the paramilitary group was considered contrary to the pursuit of democracy in Haiti.

Col. Collins, according to the daily, was chief representative of the Defence Intelligence Agency — the Pentagon's intelligence arm — in Haiti, before he left the country more than eight months

before FRAPH was created. Meanwhile, a man alleged to be one of the most brutal and hated attaches in northern Haiti, suspected in dozens of killings, has been captured and is being held by U.S. troops, military sources said Friday.

Jean-Claude Celestin, 50, known to Haitians as "Ticoyo the torturer," was captured in the mountain town of Grande-Riviere Du Nord Thursday and handed over to U.S. army Green Beret units, who transferred him by helicopter to a detention camp in Port-Au-Prince, the source said.

"Possibly this guy is responsible for more than 150 murders. This guy is noto-

rious," Sergeant Harold King, who interrogated "Ticoyo," told Reuters.

Known throughout the northern Haiti as the most violent of the paramilitary plainclothes police, known as attaches, Ticoyo was captured in this mountain town by a group of supporters of exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the military sources said.

An Army medic said Ticoyo was recognised when he sought medical attention for a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the buttocks.

One Green Beret source said Ticoyo had been arrested by Haitian army units last month but escaped on Sept. 21.

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Wisdom of Sanctions?

IRAQ'S PATIENCE is running out, and rightly so, with the United Nations Security Council for refusing to lift the sanctions against it. The record of Baghdad on its compliance with the council's resolutions adopted in the aftermath of its occupation and annexation of Kuwait in 1990 speaks for itself. The Iraqi authorities had literally left no stone unturned in their bid to play ball with the international community in a desperate effort to be reintegrated into the community of nations and for the embargo imposed on it to be lifted. It seems that the Iraqi regime's decision to go out of its way to win the sympathy of the principal Security Council members has gone unnoticed or without any semblance of appreciation. No wonder then that Baghdad is overtly exasperated with the turn of events and the lack of even a token of acknowledgement for all that it has done to meet U.N. demands for destroying its mass destruction weapons.

Now it seems Iraq has gone back to its threatening posture and is warning the nations of the world that it may reconsider its cooperative policy as long as no adequate response is received from them. We have to agree with Iraq not so much because we even remotely blessed its past aggressive and self-defeating policies in the Gulf region but because we believe that Iraq deserves to be compensated in part at least for its compliance with decisions of the international organisation. As long as Iraq's deeds are not reciprocated in kind, there can be no fresh incentives for the Iraqi government to continue its "friendly" posture towards the Security Council. So when Iraq demands that it be advised in black and white terms on when the sanctions against it will be lifted if it is to commit itself to a long term surveillance of its arms industry, we have no choice but to agree.

We say so for many reasons. Iraq must be integrated into the ongoing peace process for there is no way that the fruits of the accords struck with Israel can be maintained for long without the involvement of Iraq in them as well. Baghdad is just as important as Syria or Jordan or Egypt when it comes to finalising a permanent peace environment in the Middle East. Whoever thinks that full peace can be secured for the region without the participation of Iraq would be deceiving oneself. Against this backdrop it is perhaps disturbing to learn that all secret contacts between Iraq and Israel had to be suddenly terminated under the pressure of Washington. This is a most ill-advised policy if it turns out to be true. Iraq continues to be a regional power. The sooner it is integrated into the international community the sooner it would be possible for it to play a stabilising role. Otherwise, Iraq could be pushed to play the destabilising factor that may contribute to unravelling everything we all have painstakingly done in the direction of peace in the Middle East.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

ARAB GULF states' decision to end their boycott of foreign firms dealing directly with or investing in Israel came under severe criticism from Tareq Masraweh, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily. It is strange to hear Arab states openly demanding that the United Nations maintain its embargo on Iraq for not recognising the new borders with Kuwait while ending their boycott of firms dealing with Israel when it does not recognise the international borders of Iraq, Syria and Lebanon, said the writer. Certain Arab states are opening liaison offices in Tel Aviv and allowing the Jewish state to open such offices in their countries at a time when they refuse to restore their ties with Baghdad, said the writer. He said that the Arab countries should take a lesson from African nations which in 1973 ended their ties with Israel only because Israeli troops landed on African soil. The writer said that it is regrettable to see Arab states losing their self-respect and succumbing to Washington's desires in all their actions and their policies for the benefit of Israel. He said while Arab states demand that Iraq respect U.N. resolutions — something which Baghdad has already done — Israel has shown no respect to any U.N. resolution.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour daily addressed the unexplained rise in the prices of basic commodities, saying that the situation has become unbearable to the majority of Jordanian families. Mohammad Daoud blamed the concerned authorities for not taking appropriate action to stem the greed of certain merchants, especially whole dealers. The prices of vegetables and fruits are so high that families with high incomes have started to complain that they cannot afford them, he said.

Jordanian Perspective

Arabs pay the price for lack of coordination

By Dr. Musa Kailash

DESPITE THE optimism that surrounds the Middle East peace process, the Arabs involved in peace negotiations with Israel should be watching with concern the success the Jewish state has achieved in making inroads into the Arab World in terms of steps towards diplomatic relations.

What we saw in the past week was a tumbling of the walls of isolation that the Middle East had imposed on Israel as part of pressure to convince the Jewish state to accept, recognise and honour the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and relinquish Arab territories it occupies.

It was known that Morocco and Tunisia were not exactly adverse to setting up relations with Israel at the outset of the peace process in Madrid in 1991, and so the Tunisian and Moroccan agreements with Israel to open liaison offices in each other's territories did not come as a complete surprise. For good measures, Morocco has also thrown in a representative office in autonomous Gaza Strip if only to appease the Palestinians. Reports of Israeli-Algerian contacts have also surfaced, leaving Libya as perhaps the only significant player in the Arab Maghreb to continue to pursue a headline towards Israel. Other Arab League members in the Maghreb — Djibouti, Mauritania and Somalia — are too engrossed in their internal problems, to say the least, to turn their attention to external political undertakings. The Comoros, the 23rd member of the Arab League, would follow the majority course of the Arab states.

What should give food for thought for us in Jordan is the speed with which the Gulf states followed suit. Of course, Qatar has had contacts with Israel through its foreign minister since last year and it was a foregone conclusion that Doha would move towards translating those contacts into economic and political relations, if only because of the independent policies that Qatar had been following in the past two years. That leaves the other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), some of which have already established contacts with Israel, contributing to the realisation of the Jewish state's strategic objectives. Needless to say, relations with the

Gulf states are of more importance to Israel than the Maghreb states.

Where do all these moves leave the status of negotiations between Israel on the one hand and the Palestinians, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon on the other? From the very beginning of the peace process 35 months ago, one of the strong cards that the Arab parties held was the political and economic boycott of Israel. An end to that boycott and acceptance of Israel as a legitimate member of the Middle Eastern community with all that entails would have been a crowning factor of the peace process after the Jewish state satisfactorily addresses the concerns of its Arab states and return usurped territory and rights with no exception.

In technical terms, the Palestinians should be the last to complain; after all, it was the Oslo accords that they negotiated in secret with Israel and formalised in Washington more than one year ago that had opened the door for the turn of events that may have weakened the basic demand for the return of all Arab rights and territory. But then, the Palestinians seem to be satisfied with their agreement and are continuing negotiations with Israel on expanding autonomy in the occupied West Bank. Hopefully, they would realise their nationalist goals when the final status negotiations begin in 1996.

However, it is at this point that the Palestinians should be worried. What cards would they hold to pressure Israel in 1996 if a majority of the Arab World has normalised relations with Israel?

To a limited extent, this should also be worrisome for Jordan, which has signed a declaration with Israel and ended 46 years of belligerency between them ahead of seeking just and comprehensive solutions to the bilateral border, water and security issues. Now that Israel has achieved diplomatic breakthroughs with most Arab countries, what incentives are left on the table that Jordan could use to press its quest for its territorial and water rights?

Jordan has indeed described as positive the GCC move to partially lift the economic boycott of Israel and pointed out that such a move should be endorsed by the Arab League before it takes effect. The Arab League has argued that the

GCC decision is null and void if only because the boycott was imposed in the first place by an Arab League resolution and, as such, it would need another resolution to relax the boycott.

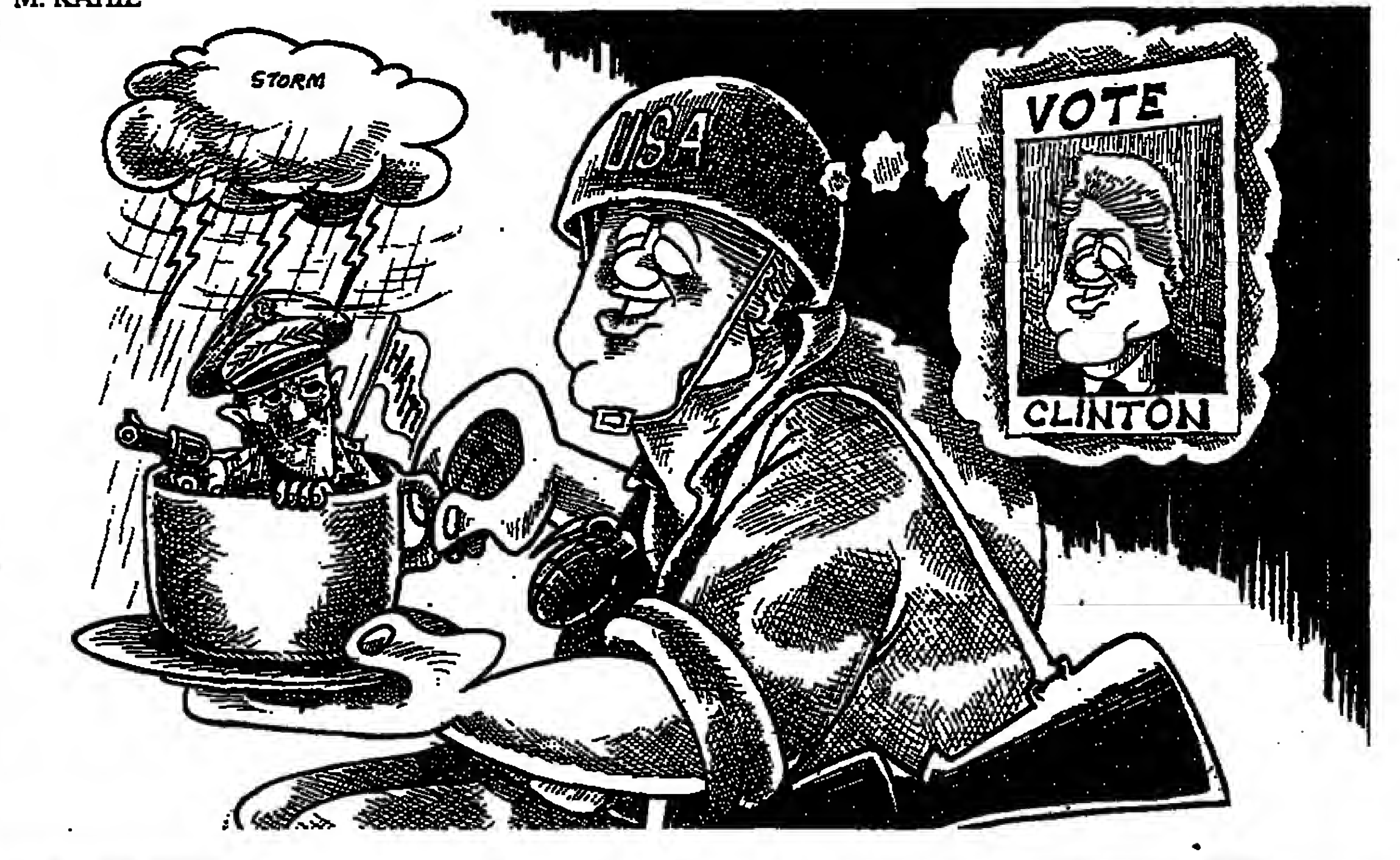
In sum, Jordan seems to be taking a more pragmatic position and adjusting itself to the new developments. Not that these developments were not foreseen, but the speed with which they took place warranted a faster Jordanian pace. Hopefully, as it is forecast, there would be a Jordanian-Israeli peace agreement before the end of the 1994.

But the situation should be more worrying to Syria and Lebanon if only because Israel seems to believe that it stands to lose little even if it takes several more years for breakthroughs in the Syrian and Lebanese tracks of negotiations.

However, there are indications that the Syrian leadership is preparing its people to accept the concept of peace with Israel. Special television programmes focusing on the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the stands that Damascus adopted throughout the decades have become a regular feature in Syria, not to mention the famous "peace" posters adorning Damascus and the Syrian countryside that American administration officials cite as the best evidence yet of a gradual Syrian move towards announcing a breakthrough in negotiations with Israel.

If that indeed is the psychology in Syria today, then the logical next step is indeed a fresh attempt at Arab coordination. That is not to say that the atmosphere in the region is conducive to such contacts, given the criticism that Syria and Lebanon have levelled at the Palestinians and Jordan for ending deadlocks in their negotiations with Israel. But then, the ironic question is: Are the Arabs unable to coordinate among themselves at this critical juncture in history when they are at the threshold of settling decades of enmity with a common foe, knowing very well that they would have to pay the price for non-coordination in terms in the currency of national interests?

M. KAHIL



European forum faces moment of truth in Budapest

By Nicholas Doughty
Reuters

LONDON — In the heady days after the fall of the Berlin wall, there was a dream that all the states of Europe could join with North America and build a better world based on cooperation rather than the threat of conflict.

One of the best ways to do this, said politicians from both East and West, was to build up a fledgling body called the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), making it a forum that would prevent conflicts and ensure human rights.

Now, almost five years after the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe, the dream has been submerged in the mire of Bosnia and of other conflicts that have resurfaced.

The 53 members of the CSCE, which groups all European countries with the United States and Canada, meet this month in Budapest to prepare for a December summit that may be the last real chance for the organisation to deliver on its promise.

So far, diplomats say, there is a little sign that it can be rescued from growing obscurity — since its members have increasingly different and even conflicting interests.

Secretary-General Wilhelm Hoyneck, who wields virtually no power in the organisation that grew out of a 1975 East-West conference in Helsinki, lamented earlier this year that the CSCE "does not seem to be in fashion."

Critics say it is little more than a loosely organised talking shop on human rights and minority issues.

Those who defend the organisation say it never received real backing from key Western governments and that its role, however

limited, has been important in reducing tension by sending low-key diplomatic and observer missions to areas of tension.

Either way, diplomats and analysts say the Budapest meeting, which starts on Oct. 10, could be the last opportunity for this pan-European body to make a real mark on security issues.

"Failure at Budapest may signify the political death of the CSCE," says a report from the independent British-American Security Information Council, published last month.

Among the major powers, only Russia is pushing to turn the CSCE into a major body with responsibility for security in Europe. Diplomats say this is because Russia knows it has no chance of joining NATO or the 12-nation European Union (EU).

Moscow has proposed establishing a U.N.-style Security Council within the CSCE that would have the power of veto over actions by other European bodies such as NATO.

By establishing a hierarchy with the CSCE at the top, Russia would therefore retain a powerful voice in European security. Moscow has complained that it is being left out of important issues, including NATO action in Bosnia earlier this year.

Russia also wants the Budapest meeting to hand over formal responsibility to Moscow for peacekeeping duties in troubled former Soviet republics like Georgia and Tajikistan.

The Russian proposals are unlikely to be accepted, since the CSCE works only through consensus — something many diplomats say is a great weakness of the system, because it is difficult to get 53 countries to agree on any given subject.

Major Western powers are unwilling to subordinate

NATO to the CSCE because that would curb their freedom of action.

Moscow's former satellites in Eastern Europe are also suspicious of its motives. They originally backed the CSCE as the future of security but are now more interested in finding shelter by joining NATO and the EU.

As for peacekeeping in former Soviet republics, many CSCE members want strict controls and oversight of any mission run by Moscow — an idea Russia has so far opposed.

The CSCE has been bypassed by other organisations in peacekeeping and resolution of conflicts, even though the last summit in 1992 carved out a new role for it in those areas.

Instead, the baton has passed to NATO, the EU and the United Nations in Bosnia. Europe's worst conflict since World War II.

Those who defend the CSCE argue that it has neither the mechanisms nor the military structure to deal with conflicts and that it is unfair to blame it for failing to tackle Bosnia.

"It has been quietly building a record of useful innovation in the area of preventive diplomacy," John Maresca, former U.S. ambassador to the CSCE, wrote in a recent newspaper article.

"It has shown it can help to head off the kinds of conflict we have seen in the last few years."

Small monitoring missions have been sent to the Serbian province of Kosovo, the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, Estonia, Latvia, Georgia and Nagorno-Karabakh and officials say they have helped to defuse tensions there.

Mr. Maresca and others argued that the principle of consensus within the CSCE, while perceived as a weakness by many, is also a

strength since it means that all European states are included on an equal basis and no one is left out.

With no fixed abode for most of its life, the CSCE now has small offices in Prague, Warsaw and The Hague as well as the headquarters in Vienna. But it has virtually no permanent staff and a tiny budget — just \$18 million this year.

Despite the problems, government leaders insist ways must be found to strengthen the CSCE, even though there is no extra money and few ideas about the best way ahead.

All of this contrasts with the mood at a CSCE summit in Paris four years ago, when leaders pronounced an end to the cold war and pledged a new age of cooperation amid much fanfare.

Germany and the Netherlands have suggested the Budapest meeting should boost the CSCE's credibility by getting member states to turn to it first in any dispute, going to the United Nations only if they cannot reach agreement there.

Again, this idea is unlikely to have real impact because many countries want to keep their right to go to the United Nations.

The Helsinki conference of 1975 was hailed by the West because it committed communist states to observing human rights, even though the principles were flouted, then as now, by some countries.

For Warsaw Pact nations, it provided legitimacy through confirmation of post-World War II borders in Europe.

Beyond that, the CSCE remained little more than a forum for East-West wrangling over human rights — until the end of the cold war raised hopes that "collective security," embracing everyone's interests, might have a real future.

WEEK IN PRINT GCC at fault for ending boycott

Reviewed by Elia Nasrallah

WASHINGTON — Imposing a U.S.-Israel peace on the Arabs was not under fear and hegemony and continue to allow their wealth to be looted by the U.S.-Zionist alliance, said Tareq Masraweh in Al Ra'i daily. We continue to hear mere words from (U.S. President) Bill Clinton about progress achieved in the Middle East peace process while Israel continues to exploit the region's river waters alone and occupy Arab land, he said. The writer said that improvement of Jordanian-U.S. relations as well as the development but Washington's insistence that improvement of these relations should pass through Tel Aviv is something which Jordan cannot accept any more.

years. It is regrettable, said the writer, to see rich Palestinians refraining from helping their kinsmen who are in desperate need following the failure of the donor nations to fulfill their promises to them.

Discussing Gulf states' decision to end their boycott of foreign firms dealing with or investing in Israel, Mohammad Kawash, a writer in Al Dustour, said the move was another breach by Israel of Arab ranks and another success for the Jewish state. Indeed, the Gulf states' decision is bound to harden Israel's negotiating position with the Arab confrontation states.

Except for Israel and those individual parties like American firms, no one is happy with the Gulf states' decision to terminate the boycott, said Mahmoud Rimawi in Al Ra'i daily. Even prominent leaders in the Gulf states must be feeling embarrassed by this rash decision, which was unjustified at this stage while the Arab parties have not yet made any progress in their negotiations with Israel, said the writer. He said the disarray in the ranks of the Arab countries and the lack of coordination among the Arab parties involved with Israel in the peace process are to blame for this unhappy development.

Discussing the continued embargo on Iraq by orders from the United States, Taber Al Adwan, a columnist in Al Dustour, said that there was no justification for this embargo any more and the Arab Nation should not allow millions of their kinsmen to fall victim to hunger and disease. The writer said perhaps it is in the interest of the United States to maintain the embargo on the Iraqi people for another 10 years; but it is not in the interest of the Arab masses to see their kinsmen dying to satisfy the greed of other nations.

Sami Maaytah, a columnist in Al Dustour, criticised some members of Muslim Brotherhood for presenting a negative image of their group. He said those members have been acting in such a manner exceeding the limits of their group's policies and stands regarding domestic and external policies adopted by the Kingdom. The writer said that the Islamic movement is to be commended for drawing public's attention to the dangers inherent in dealing with the Zionists but, he said that since the struggle against the Zionists is long and difficult, the extremist elements within the Islamic movement should not be allowed to be carried away with their sentiments.

Saleh Qallab, a writer in Al Dustour, urged wealthy Palestinians to rally to the help of their kinsmen in the self-rule areas and the occupied Palestinian lands. Urging rich Palestinians to finance infrastructure projects, the writer said wealthy Palestinians ought to take a lesson from rich Jews living abroad who, he said, have been financing Israel's industrial, economic and agricultural schemes over the past 50

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Crown Prince returns home

(Continued from page 1)

In reply to a question on the influence of present developments on the image of Arabs in the Western media, Prince Hassan said that he extended an invitation to the European Broadcasters Union to gather in Amman or any other Islamic capital to meet with their counterparts in Muslim countries.

He said he believed that the distorted images of Arabs and Muslims require that both Arabs and Muslims take the initiative to correct them.

Washington warns Baghdad

(Continued from page 1)

The ministry, in a statement over Kuwaiti Television, ordered reservists who had been due to be called up in November or December to report to barracks on Sunday instead.

Defence Secretary William Perry said the Iraqi troop movements "are not routine and are not typical of what we've seen in the past, and therefore they do cause us concern."

One senior Pentagon official said, "Yes, there have been movements. Exactly what they mean, we don't know." The official said they could just be "some bluster" to signal Iraq's unhappiness with United Nations sanctions.

At the State Department, spokesman Michael McCurry said in a statement that Iraq's Revolutionary Command Council must not be allowed to intimidate the U.N. Security Council and Iraq's neighbours.

Additional warnings were expected to come later from Madeleine Albright, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

The State Department said Baghdad had been informed that threats of force would not lead to an end of international sanctions. "To achieve the lifting of sanctions, Iraq must comply fully with all U.N. Security Council resolutions," Mr. McCurry said.

Iraq amassed troops on the border of Kuwait in the summer of 1990 and then took over the oil-rich emirate. The invasion started the Gulf war, in which a U.S.-led coalition defeated Iraq and drove out Iraqi forces.

On Thursday, Baghdad had warned it would prevent U.N. monitoring of its military facilities unless the U.N. Security Council eased its four-year embargo on Iraqi oil sales.

The council convenes next week to discuss whether Iraq has complied with U.N. conditions to lift the embargo. A second Pentagon official noted that should administration officials care to display some military muscle in response to the Iraqi moves, the aircraft carrier USS George Washington is currently in the Adriatic Sea and could be shifted to the Gulf region.

At present, there are about eight navy ships in the Gulf region, including an amphibious ready group headed by the USS Tripoli that includes about 2,000 marines.

One of a series of military exercises with U.S. army troops is also slated to occur later this month, in which 1,350 U.S. troops were slated to join forces with Kuwaiti forces in a field exercise.

The United States has maintained a large amount of military weaponry and supplies in Kuwait, which troops on exercise use to train in the

desert environs. There have been two to three such exercises every year since the Gulf war.

At the U.N., Iraq's chief envoy charged Friday that the sanctions have caused intolerable suffering in his country.

Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz, in an address Friday to the United Nations General Assembly, accused the U.S. government of "fabrications and falsifications used as pretexts to prolong the iniquitous (oil) embargo."

Under the terms of the Gulf war ceasefire, Iraq must destroy its deadly weapons systems and submit to U.N. monitoring before the oil embargo is lifted.

In his speech, Mr. Aziz asserted that Iraq has met those conditions. The Security Council has said they have not.

Mr. Aziz made no mention of the U.S. government reports that Iraq was mobilising troops along its border with Kuwait.

The Security Council scheduled closed consultations for Friday afternoon on the reported troop movements.

Mr. Aziz said the United States and other Western nations have blocked the import of burial shrouds, school pencils, cloth for hospital bed sheets and other needed goods and forbade a group of pilgrims to fly to religious shrines in Iraq.

"One permanent Security Council member, namely the United States of America, obstructs persistently any step towards correct legal application of the resolutions of the council, particularly those relating to lifting sanctions upon Iraq," Mr. Aziz said.

After Mr. Aziz spoke, U.S. ambassador Albright called his address "one of the most ridiculous speeches delivered at the U.N. by Iraq."

However, the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission, which patrols the border, said all appeared quiet on both sides. "We don't have any information about massing troops at the border," said spokesman Besselin Kostov.

Saad Jabr, chairman of the London-based Free Iraq Council of political exiles, said that in the last few days a number of disaffected officers, including several in the Republican Guard, rose against President Saddam Hussein.

He said the security forces arrested the officers, but it was unclear how many were involved.

No substantiation was immediately forthcoming from other sources. However, details on previous coup attempts provided by the son of former Iraqi Prime Minister Saleh Al Jabr was later substantiated by other sources.

Sharaa delivers letter to Clinton

(Continued from page 1)

could be one of the last major components of a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace agreement.

"Syria is prepared to meet the requirements of peace," Mr. Sharaa told reporters before a meeting with Mr. Christopher on Thursday (see page 2). "At the forefront of these requirements is the full withdrawal from the Golan."

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin this week defended his peace policy before parliament on Monday, vowing that Israel would not give up any of the Golan without total peace with Syria.

"No force will make us move a single centimetre on the Golan plateau if there is not total genuine peace," Mr. Rabin said as he opened the winter session of parliament.

Israel has proposed a limited withdrawal from the Golan, without uprooting Jewish settlements in the territory, with a three-year probationary period before further withdrawal.

With Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in Washington this week, the United States sought to help resolve one of the disputes over the Golan by pledging to participate in an international peacekeeping force in the region as part of a peace settle-

Questions on the timetable for Israeli withdrawal and security measures are not insurmountable obstacles, said Shai Feldman of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

"The ultimate depth of Israel's withdrawal and the tangible expressions of Syria's commitment to normal relations with Israel pose much deeper problems," Mr. Feldman added.

Mr. Feldman said Washington has a chance to win over Syria by dangling the benefits of the "peace dividends" it can reap from an accord, including investment credits and other forms of U.S. economic aid.

Israeli army

(Continued from page 1)

of Israel's activities in Lebanon, told Friday's Yediot Aharanot newspaper that he envisioned a total pullout including the dismantling of Jewish settlements in exchange for security guarantees.

But the army and nearly two-third of Israelis opposed a total withdrawal, according to Friday's newspapers.

Mr. Christopher arrives here Sunday on a new mission aimed at reviving the stalled peace talks between

Rwandan orphans learn forgiveness and love

By Hugh Nevill
Agence France Presse

GOMA, Zaire — At the Ndoshio orphanage on Zaire's border with Rwanda, administrators are settling in for the long haul. These children are not going back to Rwanda any time soon," says Lalami Mimet, a Zairean doctor who cares for some 1,500 Rwandan orphans and children separated from their parents on a sharp-stoned lava field a few kilometres west of the Zairean border town of Goma.

One hundred forty of the children are still traumatised, gazing vacantly into space, or curled up.

"All we can do is give them extra attention," Dr. Mimet says.

The remainder are hungry for human contact, thrusting small, trusting hands into visitors' palms.

There are a couple of balls in the camp, and the children make their own of wadded paper. The most common toy seems to be a swirling button on two strings.

Dr. Mimet says 172 children have been reunited with their parents — "one mother found six children here" — but the reunification rate has virtually halted

now. The camp originally cared for just 40 Zairean orphans, divided into two groups with a "mother" for each.

When bloodletting engulfed Rwanda, 3,000 Rwandan children arrived, but half have since been distributed among other orphanages around Goma.

The heavy rains — torrential all-day downpours — are just about to start, and all new money trickling in from donors is going into permanent buildings. Most of the aid agencies supplying tents and other equipment "will be gone tomorrow," Dr. Mimet prophesies.

The children are dressed in tee-shirts and shorts or dresses for the girls, and almost all wear bright plastic shoes to protect their feet from the lava rock. The toddlers — given names by camp staff — have disposable nappies.

Food is cooked in giant pots over wood chooped from nearby forest, now fast disappearing.

The orphans go all the way up to 18. Most are Hutu, but 50 are Tutsi.

That created tensions, Dr. Mimet said, because even the children had learned to hate the other

ethnic group. "We have to undo that thinking."

Nurses dispense medicines and treat children for dysentery and malaria, though the cholera epidemic that claimed 200 lives here is over now.

When the epidemic was at its height, Dr. Mimet said, "we had to choose which ones to treat — which ones were going to die in five minutes, or a little longer."

No schooling is given because, Dr. Mimet says, the aid agencies are against it, feeling it would turn the camp into a permanent institution.

"But I'm pretty sure the kids will stay with us," she says, adding that she would like to see schooling started, as in the nearby Mugunga refugee camp, which houses more than 200,000 Rwandans, and where children sit on the ground in semi-circles for makeshift lessons. Schooling is given, too, in other orphanages.

Here, instead, the staff organises plays, and songs with prizes.

Last weekend, the theme was sanitation. On Saturday, it will be forgiveness and love.



A small Rwandan child cries as he sits in the dirt in a refugee camp (AFP photo)

U.S. drive on landmine ban seen as impractical

By Nicholas Doughty
Reuters

LONDON — A new U.S. proposal to eliminate the scourge of anti-personnel mines is a dream that cannot be realised, but analysts say it might be possible to limit the use of weapons which kill thousands indiscriminately every year.

U.S. President Bill Clinton, in the face of mounting international pressure to do something about one of the most common weapons in modern warfare, called on Tuesday for a deal to rid the globe of anti-personnel mines.

"I am proposing a first step toward the eventual elimination of... 85 million anti-personnel mines, one for every 50 people on the face of the Earth," Mr. Clinton told the U.N. General Assembly.

Mr. Clinton gave no details on how that aim might be achieved.

The idea, which shows how far arms control has moved from its traditional cold war agenda of limiting superpower nuclear arsenals, has gathered ground because civilians are often killed by mines that are never removed from battlefields.

Human rights and medical groups have urged governments recently to ban their sale and use, with thousands killed and maimed in areas of recent conflict from Angola to Cambodia.

Once sown, mines do not distinguish between friend or foe and are lethal long after wars have ended. Many casualties are children who mistake them for toys or villagers who stumble onto them. They make farm land unusable and hinder relief work.

The problem, analysts say, is that mines are easy to make and have been a key part of modern combat since world war two.

"You may as well try to ban bullets or barbed wire," said Edward Foster, a defence analyst with the London-based Royal United Services Institute (RUSI).

"A ban on mines would be impossible to verify and they are simply too useful as a tool of modern warfare," he told Reuters.

They can be used to deny territory to an enemy, slow him down or channel forces into zones where fire can be concentrated on them.

They are equally useful to guerrilla fighters — the grounds are still on the ground in Cambodia and Afghanistan — and to large conventional armies.

Simon Wetzmann of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

would be possible to ban sophisticated mines made by Western countries such as Italy and the United States, a general ban would be impossible.

"The simplest kind, the most widespread kind, is made in 40-odd countries. I could make a crude one in my own backyard and you can turn them out in any factory," he said.

A U.N. conference next year will review a 1983 convention which was designed to limit the use of weapons such as landmines and booby-traps. Thirty-nine nations have signed the convention, widely seen as full of loopholes.

But there are growing signs that major producers are finally moving to stop exports of mines, following a call in February by the International Committee of the Red Cross for a ban on production and use of the weapons.

The United States, France and the Netherlands have all put a stop, at least for now, to exports. Britain introduced a partial moratorium on mine exports earlier this year and Italy, a major producer, has also said it will stop selling them.

Diplomats said it was necessary to convert these voluntary suspensions into some form of binding international agreement that would also include Asian states like China.

"That is one way in which you could certainly cut down on the supply of mines," said one Western diplomat.

Anti-vehicle mines are not so much of a risk to civilians, since they require greater weight to detonate. But modern anti-personnel mines, with innocent-sounding names like "butterfly" or "frog" are horrendous weapons that scatter ball bearings or razor shards over a wide area.

Many of them, designed to explode at waist-height by jumping out of the ground first, are built to cripple rather than kill. Since other soldiers then have to remove wounded comrades, such mines are — in military terms — more "efficient."

When first used en masse in World War II, mines were mostly metal canisters, fairly easily found with metal detectors.

Now, they are smaller and many are made of plastic, making them harder to detect. They can be scattered over a wide area from helicopters, rather than sown by hand.

So-called "intelligent mines" do not wait for people to tread on them. Instead, they have sensors which wait until a human presence is detected nearby

Forecasts of the world's end make news, forecasts of its continuation don't

By John Cunliff
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — It's not to say it won't come, but doomsday seems to run into one delay after another, followed by more international conferences at which additional doomsdays are predicted.

The delays make relatively uninteresting reading, and so do not get nearly the publicity as the doomsday forecasts. A forecast of the world's end makes news, a forecast of its continuation doesn't.

The most recent doomsday forecasts came from the just-finished population conference in Cairo, which said that overbreeding of humans threatens a devastating world crisis.

A perfectly sound premise, one to be studied and considered, says Thomas Lambert, a critic of the finding. What bothered him was that of 152 American newspaper articles he reviewed, only six challenged the "population bomb" assumption.

A fellow at Washington University's Centre for the Study of American Business, Mr. Lambert is among scores of academics who challenge the assumption that too many humans are

devouring life's resources like swarms of locusts.

There is reason to question the assumption made at Cairo, he says. Noting among other things that resources today are more available than ever before and that per-capita food production is rising around the world.

Scores of other academics have made similar points, sometimes pointing to earlier doomsday forecasts that made similar forecasts and were shown to be wrong within the time period of their forecasts.

Such forecasts have been around since man learned to communicate, but they seem in recent years to have found more ready acceptance.

From the Club of Rome in 1972 we heard that population growth would quickly lead to famines and severe shortages of energy, minerals, trees and other precious resources.

Rome was followed in 1980 by apocalyptic views contained in the Jimmy Carter administration's Global 2000 report, which forecast environmental disaster by the year 2000 unless drastic measures were taken.

From the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit in 1992 came

a package of warnings that include global warming, ozone depletion, species extinction, over-population, pollution, deforestation, food shortages, resource depletion.

In every instance, brilliant researchers presented their theses, some so profound they could be ignored only at great risk. But critics point out that overall conclusions are another matter, and that's where they take aim.

To begin with, they say, it is rather unscientific to reach conclusions before the evidence is fully presented, and it is equally unscientific not to include all the evidence.

Mr. Lambert, for example, observes that less than one-half of one per cent of the planet's ice-free land area is used for human settlements. And that where markets are free, prices fall and population growth actually creates wealth.

Is it too much to consider, he asks, that when people are wealthier they might also be more concerned about the environment, and that population growth therefore might lead to enhanced environmental protection?

In a 1992 report by the Institute for Policy Innovation, an economic think

tank based in Lewisville, Texas, economist Stephen Moore made these discoveries about U.S. price behaviour from 1980 to 1990:

— Of 38 natural resources examined, 34 experienced real (inflation adjusted) price declines and two had no change. Only two, manganese and zinc, had higher prices in 1990. Prices do not decline as resources are exhausted.

— The most stunning gains were in agriculture. On average, food prices declined by more than 40 per cent on an all-time low.

Despite warnings in the 1970s that by the year 2000 the world's oil reserves would have nearly vanished, inflation-adjusted oil prices, taxes excluded, were lower at the pump in 1990 than before the 1973 embargo.

— Natural resources in the United States were about 20 per cent less expensive in 1990 as in 1980. They were only half as costly as in 1950. They were only one-fifth as costly as in 1900.

No critic questions that the world must be cautious and heed warnings, but as Mr. Lambert points out, there's lots of opposing research out there waiting to be heard.

Germany's foreigners eye election with resentment

By Michael Christie
Reuters

COLOGNE, Germany — Ahmet Terli's son and daughter were born in Germany, went to school here and will spend the rest of their lives among Germans. So when the country goes to the polls on Oct. 16, they would also like to vote like Germans. But they can't, even though they are old enough.

Like 1.8 million other Turks whose families came to work here two or three generations ago, the Terlis are considered "foreigners" and have no say in the political life of the country they now call home.

"Our children are born, said by side, in the same hospitals as German children," 54-year-old Mr. Terli told Reuters. "Side by side, they go to the same kindergartens and schools. They study at the same universities and maybe end up working side by side."

But then, he added, arms raised in exasperation, the Turks must stay at home while the Germans vote.

"Integration, integration, integration — I have heard German politicians talk about integrating foreigners into society a thousand

just about paying taxes and buying videos."

There are more than 6.5 million permanent foreign residents in Germany — eight per cent of the population — who like the Terlis cannot vote because German citizenship laws make naturalisation all but impossible.

The largest ethnic group is the Turkish community. Germany's 1913 nationality law defines citizenship along blood lines rather than by residence or place of birth.

Naturalisation is only possible after long procedures and renunciation of any previous citizenship.

A recent survey by the Centre for Turkey Studies in Essen showed that 62 per cent of Turks here wanted German citizenship.

But they shy away because they would have to give up their Turkish papers — barring them from inheriting property in Turkey and subjecting them to their countrymen's scorn.

"After so many years, one loses one's roots in the homeland and is transplanted into the second home," Mr. Terli said. "But we still have an attachment to our relatives and origins."

centre showed that 42 per cent of foreigners — mainly Turks, Greeks, Italians and former Yugoslavs — would vote for the opposition Social Democrats (SPD) and 11 per cent for the ecologist Green.

Only 11 per cent would vote for Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) and their liberal Free Democratic (FDP) coalition partners.

The CDU has brushed aside calls for dual nationality, saying that Germany is not a country of immigration, but Mr. Kohl's critics suspect some electoral arithmetic also played a part.

"If you look at it tactically, it is little wonder that the government has no interest in giving foreigners the vote," said a spokeswoman for the Greens, who last year gathered one million signatures in support of dual nationality.

Paradoxically, the survey showed that most foreigners who would vote for the leftist SPD in Germany would back extreme conservative parties in their home countries.

"Clearly, they vote in their best interests," Faruk Sen, director of the Centre for Turkey Studies, wrote

Mr. Kohl had vowed to make naturalisation easier after five Turkish women and girls were killed last year when a house in the town of Solingen was fire-bombed at the height of a surge in neo-Nazi violence which followed unification in 1990.

But, fearing such a move would increase anti-foreigner sentiment, the CDU has since shelved those plans — at least until after the election.

As they met for tea in their cafeteria one recent Friday afternoon, staff members of the Turkish Islamic Union in Cologne were angry and suspicious of Bonn's motives.

"There seems to be a feeling that four million Nazis are better than six million foreigners," said one Turkish employee. "They want to force us to go home," said another.

"It's absolutely perverted," added Nail Gal, a 34-year-old Turk who teaches German. Millions of people were being treated like second-class citizens, he said.

The advantages of having a vote were obvious. "In order to get those votes, the parties would have to think up some policies that didn't

Economy

U.S. treasury chief prescribes budget cut to fix Saudi economy

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (R) — U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, after a two-day visit, has prescribed the same medicine for Saudi Arabia's ailing economy that helped revive the United States — government budget deficit cuts to free money for use by private business.

But it is not clear whether the prescription will work equally in a country where the private sector is not fully developed and is still heavily dependent on the government for its financial well-being.

Mr. Bentsen did not seem to harbour such doubts as he gave a mostly upbeat assessment of his visit to the world's biggest oil exporter, which included a two-hour meeting with King Fahd.

"I came away very impressed at the king's commitment to privatisation and at his leadership in the budget reductions," Mr. Bentsen told U.S. businessmen before leaving Jeddah to return to Washington.

Mr. Bentsen said privatisation would substantially boost the role of private business in the Saudi economy, making firms more efficient by eliminating their dependence on government money.

After building an enormously wealthy, high-technology economy, Saudi Arabia is facing a cash crunch brought on by weak oil prices and \$55 billion in payments towards financing the 1990-91 Gulf war.

To get its finances into better shape, the government has targeted a nearly 20 per cent cut in its \$55 to \$60 billion budget this year. U.S. Treasury officials said that King Fahd told Mr. Bentsen that Riyadh "would continue to exercise budget restraint into 1995."

Saudi Arabia has been running an annual budget deficit of the order of \$10 to \$15 billion. One local financial source said that should come down in 1994, although lower oil revenues due to weaker prices early this year could offset some of the impact of

the spending cuts. The source, who declined to be named, estimated the \$120 billion Saudi economy could shrink by two to five per cent this year under the impact of the budget cuts. The economy grew by a nominal one per cent last year with about one per cent inflation.

Saudi officials admit the economy may be in for temporary tough times. But unlike the past, they do not expect the squeeze on government finances to devastate the private sector because business is now less dependent on the government.

One Saudi official, who would not be identified, said he expected the private sector to grow by two to three per cent this year, after expanding by five per cent in 1993. Saudi officials say the private sector now accounts for about half the economy.

The private sector has been hurt by the budget squeeze. Bankers and economists said the government was behind on payments to contractors. Riyadh is investigating new forms of financing to relieve pressure on domestic markets. Mr. Bentsen and Saudi officials discussed the possibility of using financial assistance from the U.S. Export-Import Bank for the kingdom's planned purchase of Boeing aircraft.

But as it moves funding away from near total dependence on domestic money to the international arena, Saudi Arabia will have to disclose more information about its financial health and offer some sort of government guarantee of repayment. Saudi officials said they would also look for more foreign investment, including from medium-sized U.S. companies willing to share technical expertise and know-how.

The United States, with some \$20 billion, is already the biggest investor in Saudi Arabia. Mr. Bentsen said he saw room for further growth.

Zimbabwe unemployment jumps to 44 per cent

HARARE (AFP) — Zimbabwe's unemployment rate jumped from 37.2 to 44 per cent between 1990 and 1993, and the situation is expected to worsen as the country's economic woes continue, a cabinet minister has said. Four-year-old World Bank-backed economic reforms have exacerbated unemployment levels through lay-offs of thousands of workers in companies reeling under the negative effects of the Economic Structural Adjustment Programme (ESAP). "Zimbabwe is in a serious economic crisis characterised by severe unemployment problems," the minister told a public employment services workshop here.

OECD nudges up growth forecasts for rich nations

PARIS (R) — The OECD nudged up its forecasts for economic growth in the developed world Thursday but warned its member governments against a resurgence of inflation and widening budget deficits.

Staffan Sohlman, acting head of the 25-nation Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), said growth is projected to be three per cent both next year and in 1996. In its last semi-annual economic outlook, published in June, the think-tank for rich nations forecast expansion of 2.9 per cent in 1995.

The outlook had projected gross domestic product (GDP) growth of 2.6 per cent for this year but sources close to the forum said it was now counting on a slightly higher figure.

"Recovery is taking hold, strengthening and spreading across the OECD area," Mr. Sohlman said in a speech to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

"Growth in the United States now may be slowing to a more sustainable rate following its brisk pace over the past couple of years. But across the OECD as a whole, prospects are positive and we are now projecting growth of three per cent over the next two years," he said.

The think-tank's forecasts and warnings echoed those of the International Monetary Fund, which last week projected global growth of three per cent this year and 3.5 per cent in 1995.

For Europe, the OECD now sees GDP growth of just over two per cent before a quickening to three per cent

in 1995. In June its forecasts had been 1.9 per cent and 2.8 per cent, respectively.

Mr. Sohlman said that in countries where both recession and recovery had come later than in the United States, growth could still be stronger without the risk of inflation.

But he warned governments that economic expansion would only be durable if prices were kept under control.

"The most important message is that OECD governments will have to take care not to repeat the mistakes of the 1980s when economies were allowed to overheat," he said.

For Germany and other European countries, the focus should be on controlling budgets and keeping economic policy credible.

"This time of recovery is a good moment to push ahead with fiscal consolidation," he said. "It is not the moment for complacency."

Although the OECD welcomed Japan's income tax cuts for the boost that they are giving to domestic demand, it said an indirect tax increase should be implemented once recovery takes hold to avoid fiscal problems later.

Mr. Sohlman said strengthening recovery would improve employment prospects in the OECD. But in many countries structural reforms would be needed to tackle the unemployment which will not be affected by the upswing in the business cycle.

The causes and a menu of possible cures for structural unemployment were focus on the OECD's recent jobs study.

EIB grants \$200m loan for Maghreb gas pipeline

MADRID (R) — The European Investment Bank (EIB) has granted a \$200 million loan to Europe Maghreb Pipeline Ltd. (EMPL) for the construction of a natural gas pipeline from Algeria to Spain.

A statement from Spain's state-owned Instituto Nacional de Hidrocarburos (INH) said the loan formed part of the \$530 million approved last July for the building of the pipeline which would cover the 528-kilometre Moroccan section.

The 1,370-kilometre pipeline will connect the Algerian Hassi r'Mel fields with the Spanish network in Cordoba.

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U.S. dollar remains strong against major currencies for second consecutive week

The following report, covering the period from Thursday, Sept. 29, 1994 until Wednesday, Oct. 5, 1994, is provided by Naser Nabulsi, private client group at Merrill Lynch-Dubai

Overview

Fundamental view: Bank of Japan buying, uncertainty about Germany's October election, and expectations of an imminent 5 per cent hike in Fed Funds rate has helped support the dollar recently. Despite that, lingering concerns about accelerating U.S. inflation and balance of payment problems are likely to dominate investors' sentiment in coming months. We continue to look for the dollar to trade at DM/USD 1.50 and YPY/USD 95 in 6 to 12 months.

Technical View: The U.S. dollar was strong against most of the major currencies last week. The greenback posted gains against five of the six currencies that we regularly monitor, the exception was the Canadian dollar. As a result, the U.S. dollar index posted its second consecutive weekly advance with a rally of 0.3 per cent. However, even though momentum for the index is showing signs of improvement, put/call ratios are near overbought and the underlying post-February downtrend remains intact. Thus, the trading range of recent weeks still needs to be monitored given its significance as to the direction of the next meaningful move.

Impromtant resistance exists at 89-91; that band represents both the top end of the trading range and the downtrend line from the February high. Benchmark support exists at 86.65-87.40. Even if that range is penetrated to the downside, such weakness would not likely be technically confirmed. However, unless and until the post February downtrend is broken, caution remains warranted.

Japanese yen

Fundamental view: The dollar has edged higher against the yen following a relatively peaceful outcome to U.S.-Japan trade talks on Sept. 30. The U.S. initiated an investigation of Japan's auto parts market that could ultimately lead to trade sanctions, but did not take a more aggressive posture that might have led to a dumping of U.S. assets by Japanese investors. That said, the negotiators are not likely to have made much of a dent in Japan's \$140 billion trade surplus which is the root cause of yen strength. With Japan's economy recovering slowly, the Bank of Japan appears unlikely to ease monetary policy again despite considerable deflationary pressure which are keeping real interest rates high. We continue to look for the dollar to drift down to the JPY/USD 95 yen level in 6 to 12 months.

Technical view: The Japanese yen fell 1.3 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Sept. 30, and was the weakest of the six currencies we most regularly discuss. Put/call ratios are viewed as neutral, but have been improving of late. Momentum continues to deteriorate, but the underlying uptrend is still intact and it will require a decisive decline in the yen back through the 101 Y/USD area to crack the trend and confirm the action of momentum. Beyond that, major support comes in beginning at 105. Benchmark resistance exists at 97.20, then below 93.

Deutschemark

Fundamental view: The German labour market report for September has provided a much needed boost for Chancellor Kohl's prospects in the Oct. 16 election. The west German headline (not seasonally adjusted) unemployment rate dropped to 7.9 per cent for September from 8.2 per cent for August. The east German headline unemployment rate fell to 13.8 per cent from 14.7 per cent.

The mark has been showing weakness against the dollar and European crosses due to concerns about the upcoming election outcome. Barring an election catastrophe, the German market should benefit post-election as attention is again focused on economic fundamentals. The west German economy grew 2.3 per cent year-over-year in the second quarter following a 1.6 per cent increase in the first. Data available since then points to a continued recovery, but there is no indication that the west German economy is heading towards above potential, inflationary growth. Though we raised our 1994 growth forecast to 2 per cent from 1.8 per cent, we lowered our 1995 growth forecast to 2.3 per cent from 2.5 per cent. Furthermore, we no longer expect another official interest rate cut.

We maintain our forecast for the mark to be trading at DM/USD 1.50 in six-to-twelve months time compared to the current exchange rate of DM/USD 1.55.

Technical view: The Deutschemark fell 0.3 per cent against the U.S. dollar last week. Put/call data are neutral, but have been deteriorating in recent days. Momentum is deteriorating, and seems to have the potential to remain under pressure for the rest of the year. This suggests that the underlying uptrend that has been in force since February is close to a top.

With that in mind, it would likely take a decline back through 1.59-1.61 DM/USD to reverse that trend and confirm the action of momentum. Strong resistance remains at 1.48-1.52.

Against the yen, the D-mark rallied 1.0 per cent last week, but remains near the top end of its multi-month trading range. Resistance at these levels (64.50-66.50), together with deteriorating momentum, suggests that lower prices are likely in coming weeks. The trading range generate support at 59.60.

Pound sterling

Fundamental view: The British pound continued to show strength against the dollar and the DM, trading around USD/GBP 1.58 and DM/GBP 2.45. Data released this week gave conflicting signals on inflation pressures in the U.K.: narrow money grew faster than expected while house prices may have fallen a bit in September. Revised estimates indicate that output growth in the second quarter of 1994 was about 4 per cent higher than in the second quarter of 1993. Spare capacity in the economy is also seen as being lower than earlier expected.

Despite fears of inflation, the pound is being supported by expectations that Chancellor Kenneth Clarke and Governor Eddie George are committed to containing inflation below their target range of 4 per cent. The pound is also drawing strength from better-than-expected current account data: the current account deficit for the second quarter was only L664

million, much better than consensus expectations for a L 1.3 billion deficit.

Our twelve months interest rate forecast is for a 90 basis point premium of the U.K. rate over the U.S. rate at the short end and a 75 basis point premium over German short rates and a 230 basis point premium over German long rates. We maintain our twelve-month forecast for the pound to trade near USD/GBP 1.63 and DM/GBP 2.45.

Technical view: The British pound fell 0.1 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Sept. 30. Put/call ratios are near oversold. Momentum has been under pressure in recent weeks, so any nearby rally may not be sustainable. Resistance remains at \$1.586 U.S./£. First support exists near \$1.51; the lower end of the trading range at \$1.46 is second support. Against the DM, sterling gained 0.3 per cent last week, but remains in its multi-month downtrend. Momentum is bottoming and seems to be gathering steam. Resistance remains at 2.43-2.45, with support at 2.37-2.38 and 2.32-2.33.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY OCTOBER 8, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Mercury goes retrograde today making it a good time to deal with business matters from the past or things that have been left undone. Show that you have your feet firmly on the ground and that you are willing to consider other points of view.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) While secretive situations are working themselves out, you have the time to plan the future more wisely and beneficial in the long run.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You may be disappointed by a friend in the morning, but later you find that others are congenial and helpful for a new project.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You can handle outside duties very well, except in the early morning, so keep busy on various endeavours. The evening is fine for socialising.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Some small slight on the part of your mate should be forgotten and more thought can bring greater happiness. Drive wisely.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You may not agree on one point with partners, but be willing to compromise and all will be well. Attend a social function with your mate.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) There may be some small change in some venture you have started, but take this in your stride and everything will come out great.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Get at those important duties for which you have little time during the busy work week. Take health treatments to improve your appearance.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Find another kind of pleasure which does not cost too much so that you need not get into debt. Avoid an irate loved one at all cost.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Get that situation at home fixed up before you go out on the town with your loved ones as you want to do. Conversations prove interesting.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Be more careful in driving and then you can visit friends and relatives. Be careful with your money today so there is some for later.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Even if one financial affair is disappointing, look into various others which can prove to be most successful in the future.

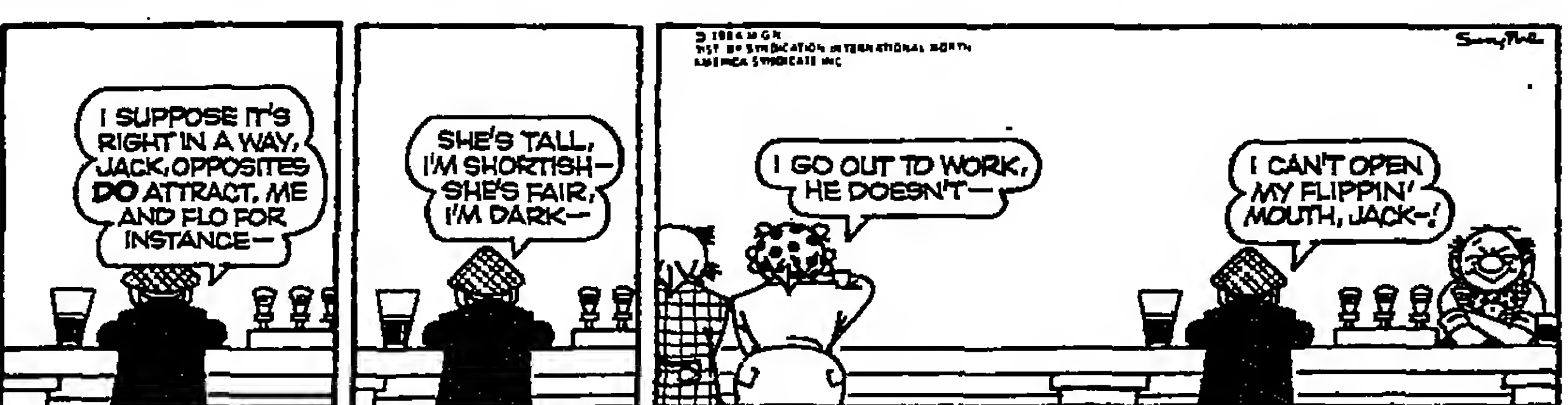
PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Carry through with plans you made instead of doing something drastic. Go after your personal aims in the evening and you will have fun.

Birthstone of October: Opal Tourmaline

Peanuts



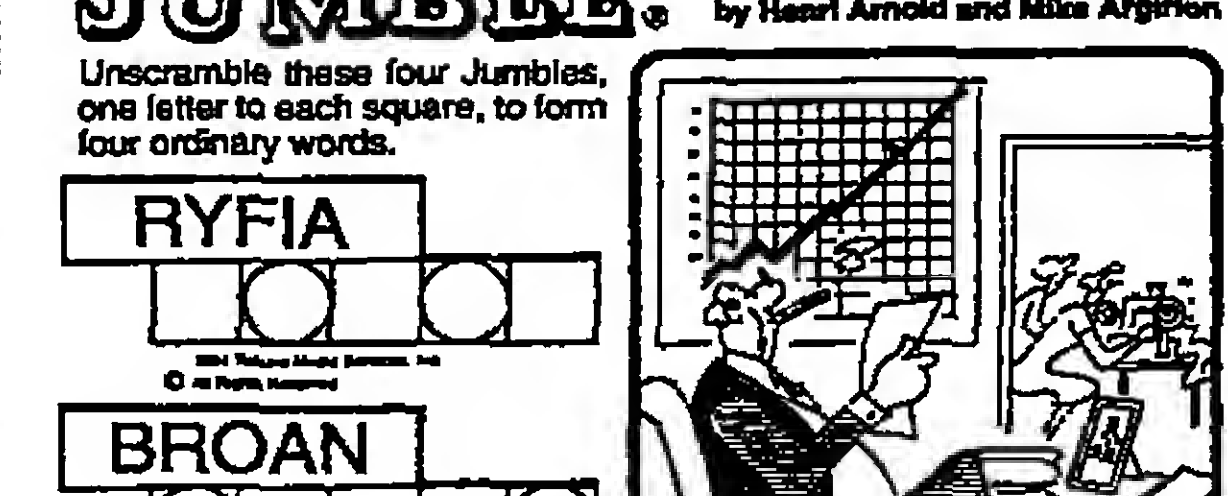
Andy Capp



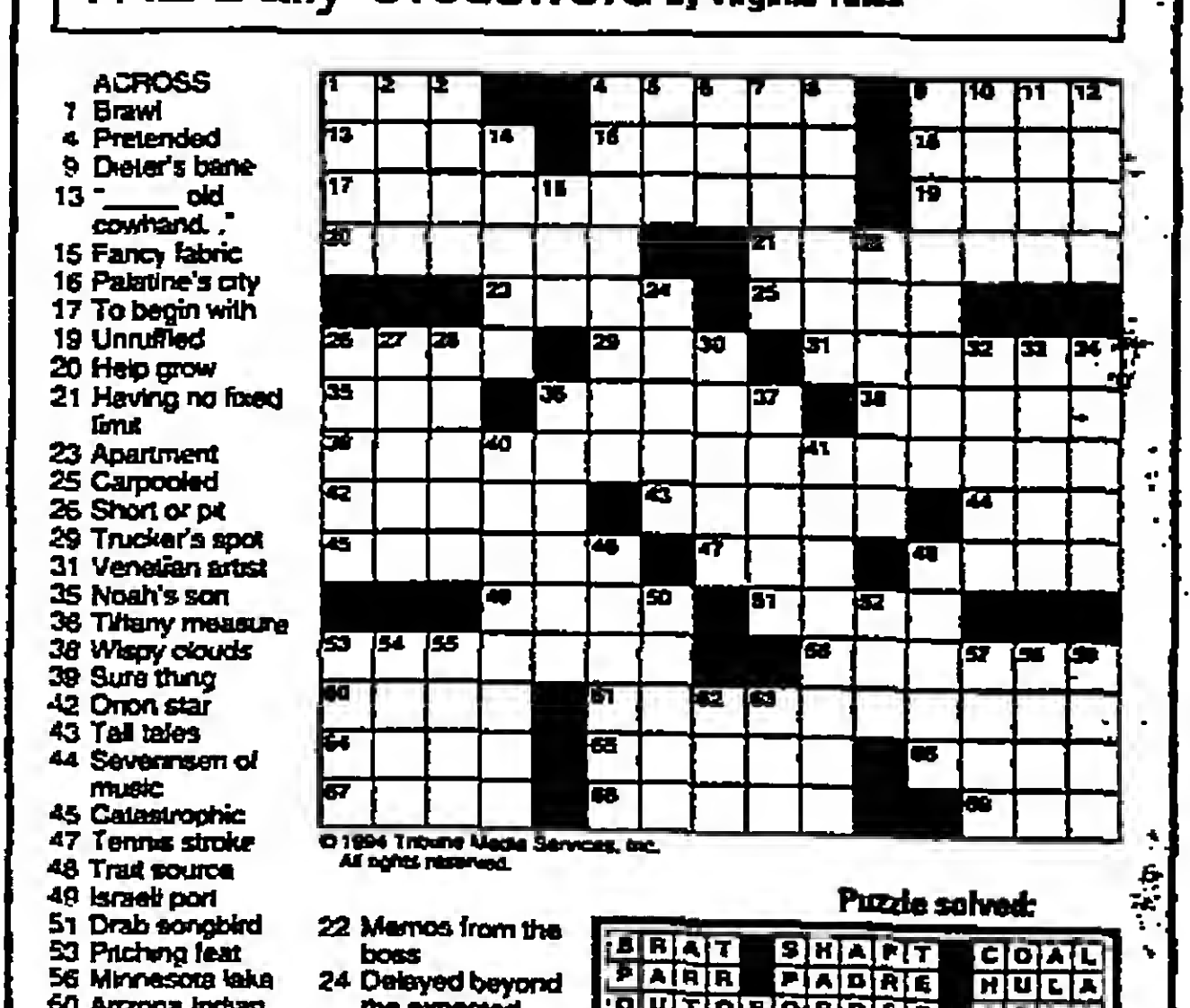
THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME



THE Daily Crossword by Virginia Yates



Financial Markets

Jordan Times
in co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close (Fri 9/10/94)	Tokyo Close (Fri 9/10/94)
Sterling Pound	1.5855	1.5802
Deutsche Mark	1.5445	1.5434
Swiss Franc	1.2795	1.2785
French Franc	5.2750	5.2740**
Japanese Yen	99.61	99.55
European Currency Unit	1.2340	1.2332**

USD Per JYD
European Opening @ 9:00 a.m. GMT

Barometer Interest Rates
Date: 6/10/1994

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.93	5.43	5.02	5.93
Sterling Pound	5.31	5.81	6.37	7.00
Deutsche Mark	4.75	5.00	5.15	5.50
Swiss Franc	3.75	4.00	4.12	4.50
French Franc	6.31	5.62	5.87	6.37
Japanese Yen	2.06	2.18	2.31	2.50
European Currency Unit	5.56	6.00	6.25	6.68

Interest rate for 3 months currency U.S. Dollar 1.0000 or equivalent.

Provisions Monthly
Date: 6/10/1994

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	391.85	7.70	Silver	5.59	0.128

* 10 Grams

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin
Date: 6/10/1994

Currency	Buy	Sell
U.S. Dollar	0.6970	0.6990
Sterling Pound	1.1045	1.1100
Deutsche Mark	0.4510	0.4533
Swiss Franc	0.5442	0.5469
French Franc	0.1320	0.1327
Japanese Yen	0.6992	0.7027
Dutch Guilder	0.4028	0.4048
Swedish Krona	0.0444	0.0446
Italian Lira	0.0444	0.0446
Belgian Franc	0.0444	0.0446

Order Currencies
Date: 6/10/1994

Currency	Buy	Sell
Bahraini Dinar	1.8330	1.8500
Lebanese Lira	0.04700	0.04733
Saudi Riyal	0.1855	0.1874
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3130	2.3470
Qatari Riyal	0.1903	0.1923
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2150
Omani Rial	1.2910	1.3170
UAE Dirham	0.1891	0.1902
Greek Drachma	0.2735	0.3250
Cypriot Pound	1.3950	1.5000

* Per 100

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET
AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE
TELEPHONE: 682170 / 682170

ORGANIZED MARKET TRADING ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIOD (01/10/1994 - 05/10/1994)

WEEKLY REPORT

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME	TRADING PRICE	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
AMMAN BANK	120,412	182.000	182.000	182.000	182.000
JORDAN POSTAL BANK	112,540	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000
AMMAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	89,000	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	15,912	1.970	1.950	1.950	1.900
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	79,032	2.900	2.900	2.900	2.900
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	89,706	3.100	3.100	3.100	3.100
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	27,642	2.900	2.900	2.900	2.900
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	79,032	1.740	1.740	1.740	1.740
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	159,136	3.690	3.670	3.670	3.670
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	24,822	3.870	3.850	3.850	3.850
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	29,040	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.900
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	27,776	2.270	2.270	2.270	2.270
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	123,271	1.640	1.640	1.640	1.640
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	646	3.720	3.720	3.720	3.720
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	646	1.250	1.250	1.250	1.250
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	11,930	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	17,547	2.620	2.600	2.600	2.540
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	47,267	1.710	1.700	1.700	1.640
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	420	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	3,364	6.950	6.950	6.950	6.950
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	210,585	5.300	5.300	5.300	5.300
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	123,026	3.540	3.540	3.540	3.520
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	26,469	2.740	2.740	2.740	2.680
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	6,293	1.310	1.310	1.310	1.270
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	11,244	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.900
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	7,317	1.130	1.130	1.130	1.160
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	19,712	11.550	11.550	11.550	11.550
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	1,309,149	2.540	2.530	2.530	2.600
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	39,799	3.130	3.130	3.130	3.130
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	137	2.270	2.270	2.270	2.270
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	187,500	2.750	2.750	2.750	2.750
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	12,641	2.750	2.750	2.750	2.750
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	4,402	7.450	7.450	7.450	7.450
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	27,470	0.570	0.570	0.570	0.570
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	12,240	3.200	3.200	3.200	3.200
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	65,643	0.920	0.920	0.920	0.920
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	83,736	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.600
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	676	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	15,393	3.000	3.000	3.000	2.940
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	9,563	2.700	2.650	2.650	2.650
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	12,641	2.750	2.750	2.750	2.750
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	123,204	16.400	16.400	16.400	16.400
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	182,531	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	60,144	7.500	7.400	7.400	7.300
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	2,900	3.250	3.250	3.250	3.250
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	125,225	1.340	1.340	1.340	1.340
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	4,402	6.250	6.250	6.250	6.250
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	19,373	2.710	2.710	2.710	2.710
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	11,078	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	27,388	1.620	1.620	1.620	1.510
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	4,705	0.400	0.400	0.400	0.400
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	31,295	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.600
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	50,426	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.600
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	30,416	0.800	0.800	0.800	0.800
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	10,804	2.330	2.330	2.330	2.300
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	49,748	2.040	2.040	2.040	2.040
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	46,076	2.090	2.120	2.120	2.120
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	27,345	4.420	4.400	4.400	4.350
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT & FINANCE	271,346	2.970	2.970	2.970	2.970
GRAND TOTAL	4,972,208				

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Friday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs	1.3481/91	1.5408/18	1.7244/54	1.2760/70	31.69/73	5.2642/92	1565.97/4	99.91/01	7.3302/02	6.6925/75	16.0217/67	\$1.5912/22	\$392.80/393.30
Canadian dollar													
Deutsche mark													
Swiss franc													
French franc													
Italian lire													
Japanese yen													
Swedish crown													
Norwegian crown													
Danish crown													

One sterling \$1.5912/22
One ounce of gold \$392.80/393.30

Battery problems still brake progress on electric cars

PARIS (R) — Car makers at the Paris have said that progress towards launching a viable mass-market, electric car was still painfully slow despite much research.

Few manufacturers even bothered to display their vehicles, in marked contrast to the Amsterdam car show last year where makers proudly showed a total of 17 electric cars.



A general view of the Paris motor show (AFP photo)

The problem is that we still need a revolution in battery technology. At the moment the electric car cannot compete with the conventional engine," said Mazda spokesman Futoshi Takano.

Whatever other manufacturers say, everyone faces the problem of power supply. Conventional batteries are too heavy, need too long to charge and have too limited a capacity," he explained.

A new report from the London-based Economist Intelligence Unit into new engine development concludes: "The electric vehicle is not the car of the future. It will continue to lack suitable technology leading to serious drawbacks, notably a limited range between recharges and excessive weight, making the car fundamentally inefficient."

France's PSA Peugeot-

Citroen was more optimistic, however. The company has been running a project with an electric Peugeot 106 and Citroen AX in the town of La Rochelle and plans to bring the 106 electric to market next year.

It also unveiled a concept car called the Ion which it says is the first car designed as an electric one rather than an adapted version of a conventional car. The company expects to market the Ion in 1998 or 1999.

"We still believe very strongly in the concept as a way of combating city pollution," said Jose Mailhe, spokesman for PSA. "For going to work or shopping in a city, the electric car has

sufficient range."

Contemporary electric cars have ranges of between 100 and 250 kilometres and top speeds of 100 to 130 kph. They need many hours to recharge, however.

A problem often cited by scientists is that generating the electricity for battery-powered cars in conventional fossil-fuel power stations pumps out more polluting gas than an ordinary petrol or diesel car.

Many of the car makers which produce electric vehicles sell or lease them to fleet customers, many of which are public bodies such as postal services involved in government-sponsored research projects.

But this is hardly new — in London as long ago as 1910 there were already 10,000 electric utility vehicles in use. They used lead batteries. Modern vehicles still either use these or nickel-cadmium batteries.

Germany's BMW, which is involved in an electric car project on the island of Ruegen with other German car makers, is using sodium-sulphur batteries which it says are the most efficient around at the moment.

"We are working on the idea and on the batteries but are not planning to bring anything to market in the near future. The battery is still not good enough," said BMW spokesman Louis-Michel Bergereau.

Trading at AFM drops; prices remain stable

By a Jordan Times staff reporter

AMMAN — Share prices, recovering from a four-week downward spiral, remained mostly stable and trading dropped at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) last week as investors took up positions awaiting further developments in the peace process and signs of projects resulting from Israeli-Jordanian negotiations, brokers said Friday.

They described the week as a "stepping stone" for prices and expected trading to pick up after fears of taxation of capital gains had plunged stocks to all-year lows since Aug. 30.

The weekly report of the AFM said turnover for the week ending Thursday was JD 5.9 million, down 30.6 per cent from the previous week's JD 8.5 million.

The general share price index based on 60 major companies closed at 145.8 points, down 0.3 points or 0.2 per cent from the week's opening of 146.1 points. The index had gone down to 140 shortly after reports said in late August that the government was planning to remove income tax exemptions granted to capital gains, including equity increases as a result of AFM trading.

The upturn in prices in the last two weeks was attributed to intervention by some of the major institutional buyers in the market to avert a further slide.

Another factor taken positively by investors as reports that Israel and Jordan had made major progress in their peace negotiations, and that the Jewish state was poised to announce the beginning of a military withdrawal from Jordanian lands it has occupied since 1984. But that announcement failed to materialise at a meeting between His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres at the White House on Oct. 3. However, the focus of the meeting was development of the Jordan rift valley which was welcomed by investors who expect projects in the valley to benefit Jordanian firms.

Shares of 72 companies were traded during the week, with 17 of them showing gains, 42 losing and 13 remaining stable, the AFM report said.

The separate sectoral indices showed that industrial stocks registered a drop of one point, or 0.8 per cent, followed by the insurance sector with a decline of 0.4 points, or 0.3 per cent, commercial banks and financial corporations gained 0.1 point, or 0.3 per cent, and the services sector posted an increase of 1.3 points, or one per cent.

Industrial stocks accounted for the biggest share in the trading volume with JD 2.8 million, or 47.2 per cent, followed by the services sector with 1.9 million, or 32.1 per cent, commercial banks and financial corporations with JD 1.2 million, or 20.2 per cent, and insurance stock with JD 32,000, 0.5 per cent.

The AFM report said 2.3 million shares changed hands under 4,427 contracts during the week.

"In general, last week was good in terms of stability although the volume was low," said a broker who attributed the low turnover to a trend among investors to "take up position and await further developments."

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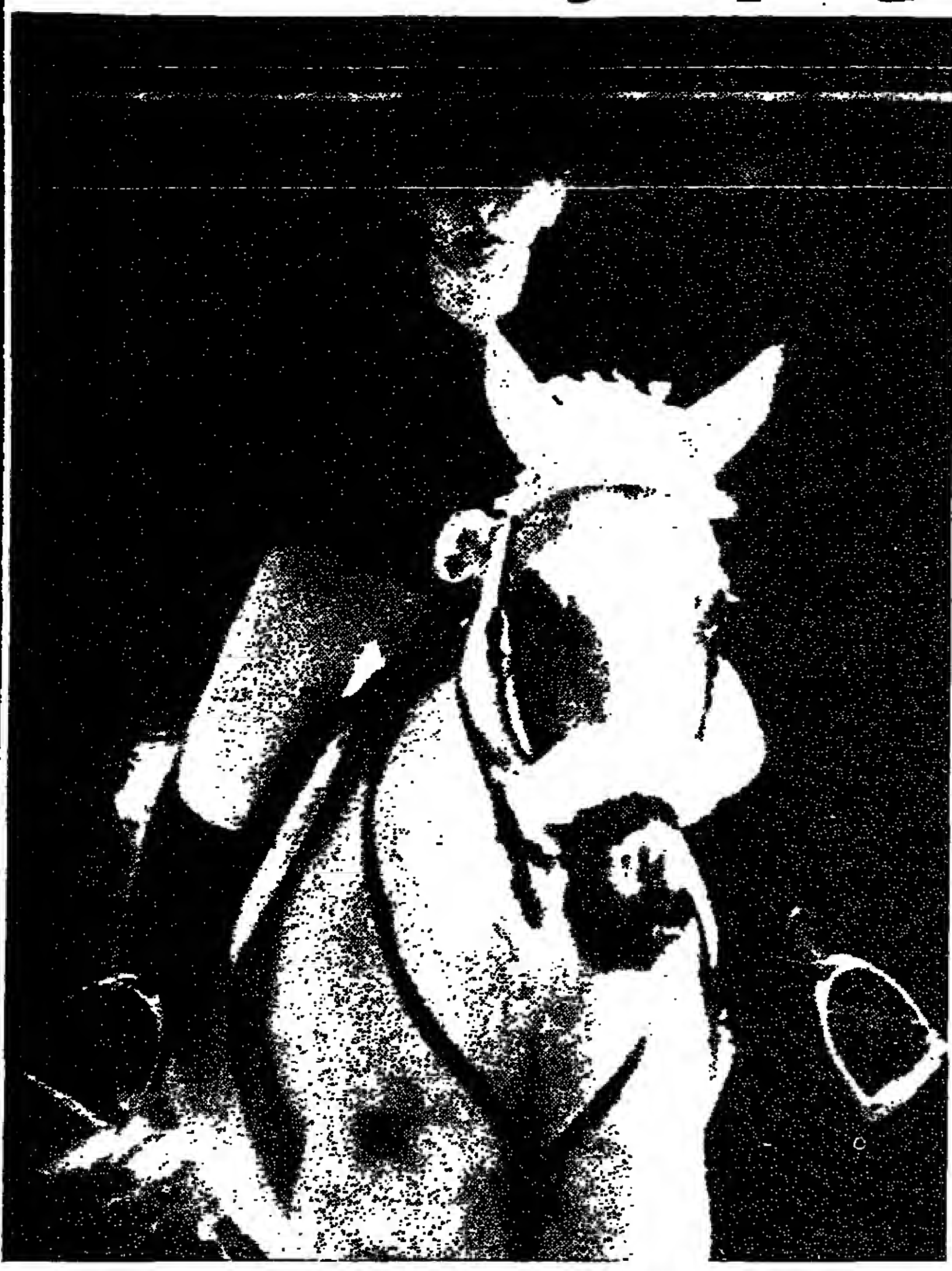
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Princess Haya advances at Asian Games showjumping championships



Her Royal Highness Princess Haya Friday puts her horse Sparky I through its paces at the first round of the showjumping championship at the 12th Asian Games in Hiroshima (AFP photo)

HIROSHIMA (R) — Her Royal Highness Princess Haya, joined the ranks of royal athletes Friday riding in her first major international showjumping competition at the Asian Games.

Elegantly dressed in a navy blue blazer and white riding pants, the 20-year-old Princess made it through comfortably to the third round of the individual competition, tying for seventh place with twelve other competitors.

Riding on "Sparky I," a whitish gray stallion, the Princess knocked down only one jump in each of the rides.

On Sunday when the final rounds take place, Princess Haya will be up against the event's other star attraction — popular Filipino actress and niece of former President Corazon Aquino, Mikaela Cojuangco.

Cojuangco, riding on "Principe," is trailing the Princess, and is currently tied for 27th place.

"I would like to win a medal," Princess Haya said as she was surrounded by reporters who were kept at arms distance by bodyguards.

Fans watching the event were impressed by the Princess' grace and her ability to overcome the pressure she is under as a sporting royal.

"It can't be easy for her," one spectator said. "Everyone is looking for her to make a fall."

Princess Haya is very prominent in Jordan's sport scene acting as patron of many local sports associations.

If she does win a medal she will not be the first

royal to do so.

In 1960 King Constantine of Greece won an Olympic gold medal in yachting and Britain's Princess Anne is a former three-day event equestrian champion.

And many other members of royal families have been members of Olympic squads.

Princess Anne also rode in the 1976 Olympics and Prince Albert of Monaco has been a member of the bobsleigh team in three Winter Olympic Games.

Spain's current royal family leads the way in Olympic competition.

Prince Felipe, heir to the Spanish throne, was a crewman in three-man sailing class yachting at the Barcelona Olympics in 1992 and his father King Juan Carlos competed in dragon class yachting at the 1972 Munich Olympics while his mother Queen Sofia was in Spain's yachting team at the 1960 games in Rome.

Princess Haya who is studying at Oxford University, was the first female to represent Jordan in international showjumping at the age of 12.

Now three of the five riders in the Jordanian team are women. No other Middle Eastern country has such a large female contingent.

"It is my belief that they can and will make of their lives what they wish to," said the Princess of women in other Arab countries. "It is up to them what they wish to achieve," she said in earlier statements.

The Princess aims to make the Asian Games her next step to competing in the Olympic Games in Atlanta in 1996.

Chinese swimmer breaks world 200 medley record

HIROSHIMA (AP) — Multitasked swimmer Lu Bin broke a world record Friday as China's Asian Games gold medal juggernaut stretched from the pool to the softball field.

Meanwhile, the first positive drug test of the games was reported. A Thai soccer player was found to have taken amphetamines, news reports in Japan and Thailand said.

Defender Sirisak Kadleer's team has lost all three of its games so far in the soccer tournament and was out of quarterfinal contention.

India won its first gold of these games by blanking Indonesia in the men's team tennis final.

In their heated battle for second place in the medals race — far behind China's 54 golds — South Korea and Japan each picked up three golds Friday and were tied at 20.

The Chinese captured 11 golds Friday — six in swimming, where their women remain unbeaten after 12 races; two in weightlifting, and one each in fencing, shooting and softball.

South Korea won two in shooting and one in women's volleyball. Japan won its gold in equestrian, swimming and shooting competition.

China had 97 medals in all, to 72 for Japan, 40 for South Korea and 15 each for Kazakhstan and Taiwan.

Swimmer Lu brought her own medal count here to three golds and two silvers by leaving the competition be-

Asian Games

hind in the 200-metre individual medley, which combines four strokes. She earlier had won gold in the women's 200 freestyle and 400 freestyle relay, and silver in the 100 freestyle and 100 backstroke.

Lu, world champion in the 200 medley, won in 2 minutes, 11.57 seconds, breaking the 2:11.65 set by teammate Lin Li at the 1992 Olympics.

China's Dai Guohong won the silver in 2:15.42 and Japan's Hitomi Maehara the bronze in 2:15.73.

Japan scored the only break in China's mastery in the pool Friday when Hajime Itoi won the 100-metre backstroke in a games record time of 56.08 seconds.

For China's women, Luo Ping won the 800-metre freestyle in an Asian record of 8:32.40 in a 1-2 Chinese finish, and China's 4:07.69 finish in the 400 medley relay was more than three seconds ahead of Japan.

In the men's 200 butterfly, China's Xue Wei and Zhang Bin tied for the gold in 2:01.47. Hu Bin won the 50-metre freestyle in a games record 22.76 seconds, with Kazakhstan's Alexei Hovrin second in 23.12.

South Korea clinched the women's volleyball gold by trouncing Taiwan 15-1, 15-11, 15-2 in its final round-robin game. Later, China edged Japan for the bronze medal with a 15-11, 15-5, 11-15, 10-15, 15-11 victory.

The South Koreans added triumphs in women's air rifle shooting as Lee Eun-Ju took the individual title and helped her team win gold too.

Based on qualifying scores that included two individual and one team games records, the South Koreans also were in a strong position to win a gold in women's individual archery competition Saturday.

Japan and China split honours in the men's free pistol event. Japanese policeman Masaru Nakashige won the individual gold but China took the team title.

India's gold in tennis came when Asif Ismail downed Indonesia's Suvandi 6-1, 6-7 (6-8), 6-3 and Leander Paes drubbed Benny Wijaya 6-1, 6-3 in singles. Zeeshaan Ali Syed and Gaurav Nairkar edged Wiryawan Sagharo and Donny Suseto 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 in the doubles.

China already had clinched the softball gold, and lost its final game 4-3 to Japan on an extra-inning run. That gave Japan the silver and left Taiwan with the bronze.

The Chinese also won both the 64- and 70-kilogramme titles in men's weightlifting, and beat Japan 9-2 for the women's for team fencing gold.

Japanese riders picked up their third gold in equestrian competition, taking the team jumping event. Taiwan won the silver and Iran the bronze. The Japanese earlier had won the individual and team dressage titles.

Attendance at Asian Games is record low

HIROSHIMA (R) — Attendance so far at the first Asian Games held outside a capital city is a record low, figures released by the organisers Friday showed.

Despite a record number of 34 sports and 337 events, a total of only 114,159 people have attended, nearly half of them on just one day — the opening ceremony last Sunday.

"These figures are disappointing ones for us. But popular athletics events will start soon, so we are expecting more people to come," an Asian Games spokesman said.

But with the games nearly half over, there would need to be a dramatic surge in attendance to meet forecasts that a total of one million people would attend by Octo-

ber 16.

The most popular sport has been gymnastics which drew 13,792 people followed by soccer with 13,156 and volleyball with 13,113 as of Thursday.

With the average daily ticket price 2,300 yen (\$23), organisers are far away from getting back even a fraction of the 150 billion yen (\$1.5 billion) spent to stage the event by building facilities like a new airport and main stadium.

Organisers would not comment on speculation that holding the games in a non-capital city like Hiroshima, which has a one million population, compared with previous venues like Beijing, Bangkok and New Delhi, was a key reason for the low turnout.

No brotherly love for Philippines boxer

HIROSHIMA (R) — Filipino Mansueto Velasco hasn't let brotherly love stand in the way of his quest for an Asian Games boxing medal.

Velasco knocked off his older brother Roel to qualify for the games and Friday he advanced to the light flyweight semifinals by solidly outpointing Abdur Rashid Qumbrani of Pakistan, 14-8.

Mansueto Velasco, 19, is coached by yet another brother and all seven of the boys in his family box or are retired boxers.

Roel Velasco, 20, won a bronze medal at the Barcelona Olympics but that didn't stop Mansueto from beating him in the elimination tournament to qualify for the games.

"If you fight your older brother, you don't have to worry as much as he does," Mansueto said.

"I didn't cheer for anyone in that fight," said Nolito Velasco, who coaches Mansueto.

The heavyweights were also in action Friday, and while one favourite, Jiang Tao of China, advanced by a knockout, another, Chae Sung-Bae of South Korea, lost to Saudi Arabia's Yousef Haroon Hawsawi.

Jiang, who won the Asian Championships earlier this year, landed a roundhouse left which knocked out Dandinbazar Ganzorig of Mongolia two minutes into the second round.

Hawsawi clubbed Chae from the start and the referee stopped the fight 36 seconds into the third round.

Hawsawi fights Bahman Azizpour, who beat Serguei Philipovitch of Kyrgyzstan, in one semifinal on Monday, and Jiang faces Alisher Avevbaev, who beat Nepalese Raj Kapur Thapaliya, in the other.

Another Philippine boxer, Romeo Brin, was involved in the best fight of the day in his loss to Thailand's Chaleo Somwong.

Brin was leading going into the third round, but faced a barrage from Somwong who won 16-12 on points.

"I knew I was behind by four or five points," Somwong said, "so I moved in closer and got busier."

There was one hometown decision when Japan's Tsuyoshi Yaegashi beat Tumen-setseg Utumen of Mongolia, 11-6 on points in a lightweight bout.

Atlanta Games welcome for Palestine, Israel

HIROSHIMA (AFP) — Atlanta Olympic organisers dream of seeing Palestine and Israel walk into the opening ceremony side-by-side at the 1996 Games.

The dream has come a stage closer with desire expressed by Palestine's sports chief here to see a presence in Atlanta.

"We would like to send at least 20 athletes to Atlanta," said Rabi Al Turk, president of the Palestine Olympic Committee who accompanied a table tennis player to the Asian Games.

Former Atlanta mayor Andrew Young, who played an important part in getting the games for the U.S. city, has always said he would like to see Palestine and Israel athletes at the 1996 Olympics.

To go to Atlanta they would need to be made full members at the IOC session in Budapest next June as invitations for the 1996 Games go out July 19.

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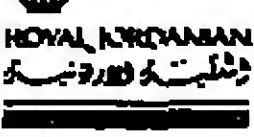
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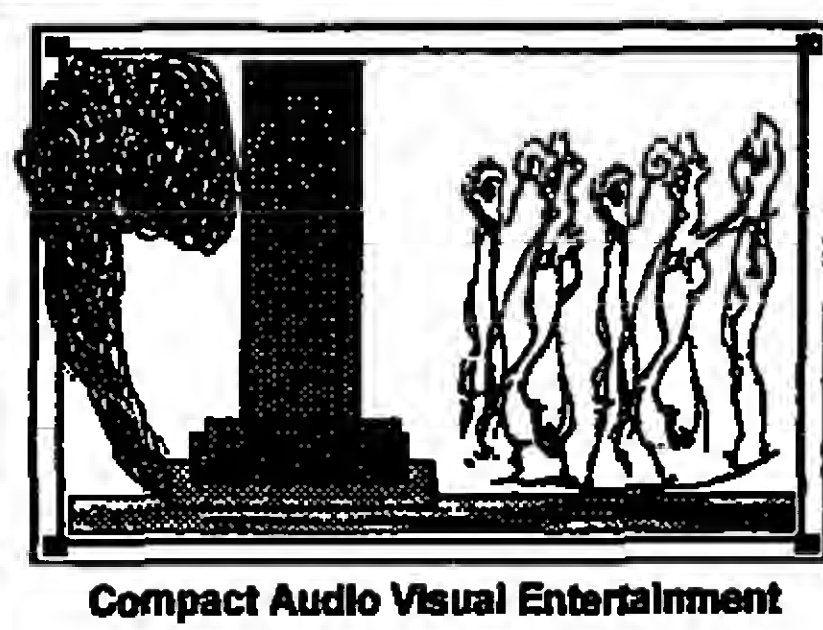
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| Oct 17
5:00 pm | Inauguration of The Spanish Contemporary Engraving and Multiple Sculpture Exhibition at the National Gallery of Fine Arts, Jabal Al Wabdeh (will remain open till Oct 30th) |
| 8:30 pm | "Vicente Amigo" Modern Flamenco Jazz Concert with a wonderful dinner preceding the show Jordan Ballroom/Grand Ballroom, Forte Grand Amman JD30 inclusive of tax and service |
| Oct 18
7:30 pm | "Vicente Amigo" Modern Flamenco Jazz Concert Royal Cultural Centre, Amman |
| 9:30 pm | A superb gourmet dinner Andalus Restaurant, Forte Grand Amman Dinner & show JD30, show only JD7 inclusive of tax and service |
| Oct 19 & 21
6:30 pm | "José María Gallardo" Classical Guitar Recital following an exquisite dinner Jordan Ballroom/Grand Ballroom, Forte Grand Amman JD30 inclusive of tax and service |
| Oct 20
8:30 pm | "Ciudad de Sevilla" Flamenco Show and "Ylana" Comical Mime Group Show following an exquisite dinner Grand Ballroom, Forte Grand Amman JD40 inclusive of tax and service |
| Oct 22 & 23
7:30 pm | "Ciudad de Sevilla" Flamenco Show Palace of Culture, King Hussein Sports City JD7 |
| 9:30 pm | A spectacular gourmet dinner with "Ylana" Comical Mime Group Show Grand Ballroom, Forte Grand Amman JD30 inclusive of tax and service |
| Oct 24
5:00 pm | "Danza Invisible" Rock Concert Palace of Culture, King Hussein Sports City JD6 |

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Germany, U.S. top Davis Cup seeds

LONDON (R) — Germany and the United States, both knocked out in the semifinals of the Davis Cup this year, were named as the top seeds for next year's competition Friday. The International Tennis Federation (ITF) said they had taken each country's cup pedigree and current player rankings into consideration in seeding Germany and the U.S. above this year's finalists Russia and Sweden. The Americans have won the cup a record 30 times while Germany have triumphed three times since 1988. Russia and Sweden, who contest this year's final in Moscow in December, were named as joint third seeds for next Tuesday's draw in London. Australia and Spain were seeded joint fifth with the Czech Republic and the Netherlands completing the seeds. The World Group will also comprise Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, France, Italy, South Africa and Switzerland. First-round ties will be played between Feb. 3 and 5 with the second round March 31-April 2, the semifinals on Sept. 22-24 and the final Dec. 1-3.

Netherlands beat U.S. in volleyball

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — The Netherlands rallied from a 2-1 deficit to beat the United States 5-15, 16-14, 10-15, 15-8, 15-11 Friday, ending the Americans' unbeaten streak and sending the Dutch to the final at the men's World Volleyball Championship. Both teams battled for the entire 2½ hours with few mistakes on either side of the net and some of the most technical play so far in the championship. "The U.S. team was very good, they didn't make any mistakes. They didn't give away any points... today we are the luckiest team in the world," Dutch captain Peter Blange said. His coach Joop Alberda agreed that his team came close to losing a few times and pointed to the critical third set as the turning point. "We struggled at the beginning, which was not because of a deficit from our team but because of the great playing of the American team. We got into a lot of trouble in the third set but by the fourth the team had lost its negative energy," Alberda said.

Hamburg topple Werder Bremen

BONN (R) — Bulgarian internationals Yordan Letchkov and Petr Hrbtchev each scored in the first half to spur Hamburg to a 4-1 victory over Bundesliga leaders Werder Bremen Thursday. Bremen slipped to second behind Borussia Dortmund on goal difference and just ahead of Bayern Munich and Kaiserslautern in the top four, who all have 11 points. Bremen seized the lead through Russian striker Vladimir Bestchastnik after 11 minutes but gradually surrendered the initiative to neighbouring Hamburg. Goals by Letchkov and Hrbtchev tilted the balance and then Werder conceded an own goal by Andree Wiedener just before the break. Argentine striker Zarate completed Hamburg's tally after 79 minutes, his first goal of the season, leaving Hamburg unbeaten in six matches.

Sick Krabbe puts off training

BONN (AFP) — German sprinter Katrin Krabbe has put off a come-back training session because of a stomach infection, her trainers said Thursday. Krabbe, banned until August 1995 after a positive drugs test, was due to restart training with a ten-day session in France next week.

Aussies charge for home title

SYDNEY (AFP) — Patrick Rafter and Mark Woodforde boosted hopes for a long-awaited home victory in the Australian Indoor tennis championships with quarter-final victories here Friday. Fifth seed Rafter rallied to overcome American Aaron Krickstein 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7/2) and Woodforde fought back to beat Sweden's Nicklas Kulti 4-6, 6-2, 7-5.

The advance of the two Davis Cup players added further weight to Cup captain John Newcombe's claim of an Australian men's tennis revival.

It is the first time Australia has had two players in the semifinals here since Ken Rosewall and Geoff Masters in 1978. No Australian has won the title since Masters in 1976.

But the pair face formidable hurdles in the semifinals — 21-year-old Rafter is to play seventh-seeded Dutchman Richard Krajicek and Woodforde to meet the winner of the match between second seed Boris Becker of Germany and American Jonathan Stark.

Former world number B Krajicek comfortably accounted for American Jeff Tarango 6-1, 7-5, his 14 aces taking his tally from three matches to 45 and he has yet to drop a set.

Rafter, ranked 22, played out a thrilling deciding set with 45th-ranked Krickstein. It went with serve until the Australian produced a stream of winning volleys in the tie-breaker.

"I don't mind going to tie-breakers. I know the other guy is going to have to play well because when it gets tight I go for it," said Rafter. "I don't mind that tag of being the Next Australian Hope. I just have to try and put it out of my mind."

European Indoor

ZURICH (R) — The much-heralded professional debut of 14-year-old Martina Hingis ended Thursday when she lost 6-4, 6-0 in the second round of the European Indoor championships to second seed Mary Pierce of France.

Hingis, who turned 14 last Friday, fought back gamely throughout the 55-minute, first set but was finally overwhelmed by the powerful all-court play and experience of the 19-year-old French teenager, ranked fifth in the world.

Pierce continued to dominate the Swiss girl in the second set as the younger teenager's concentration totally disintegrated.

Hingis started nervously, and, as she had done when she beat American Patty Fendick in the first round, she dropped her service in her opening game.

Within six minutes she was trailing 0-3 but managed to find the correct length of her drives to pull a game back as Pierce stumbled briefly and saw her lead cut to 3-1.

Hingis also gave a hint of the potential that has so excited tennis-watchers by warding off a total of 10 breaks in the fifth and seventh games and three set points in the ninth game.

But the writing was on the wall when Hingis was leading 40-0 in the first game of the second set and surrendered the game tamely with a string of unforced errors.

She never recovered even though she rallied briefly to force four advantage points in the fourth game on Pierce's serve.

Pierce was never pressed as she ran out a comfortable winner in 90 minutes, although afterwards she said Hingis was a good enough player to be on the tour.

"She has got some good

Second seed Pierce too strong for young Hingis

shots. But her service game was very poor today. With improvement and in time, I am sure she can hold her own. And continuing nervousness contributed a lot to her defeat especially in the second set."

Hingis said she was sorry she had disappointed her numerous fans.

Asked to compare her performance against Fendick and Pierce, she replied: "I can see the difference now when you play someone from the top ten."

Nathalie Tauziat, 26, the former French number one, who plays Helena Sukova of the Czech Republic in the second round, was perfectly placed to compare Hingis with Jennifer Capriati who turned pro at an even younger age than Hingis, in 1990.

Tauziat, who lost to Capriati 23 days before her 14th birthday at Boca Raton, Florida, four years ago, practiced with Hingis in Zurich and said afterwards Capriati was better at 14.

She said: "Hingis has a good backhand but seems to have problems with her forehand on the fast surface. She reads the ball very well, has good anticipation and hits the right shot at the right time."

"Fortunately for us, she still has some weaknesses, otherwise it would be very serious for us."



Mary Pierce

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East-West vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ 9 7 4 3
♥ J 10 5
♦ K 8 4 3
♣ Q 7

WEST EAST
♠ 8 5 2 ♠ K J 6
♥ K Q 6 ♥ A 8 4 2
♦ 7 ♦ 8
♣ 10 8 6 3 2 ♣ K J 9 4

SOUTH
♠ A Q 10
♥ 7 3
♦ A Q J 10 5 2
♣ A 5

The bidding:
East South West North
1♥ 2♦ 2♥ 2♠
Pass 4♥ Pass 5♦
Pass

Opening lead: King of ♣
Tricks can be found in the strangest of places. Look at all four hands and see if you can spot declarer's 11th trick.

South was not shy in the auction. After deciding the hand was strong enough to double and bid diamonds later, South then concluded that, on the strength of partner's free bid, suggesting strength in a key holding, the hand was worth a jump in diamonds. North, not surprisingly, raised to game.

West's opening lead of the king of hearts, followed by the queen, did not make declarer's work any more difficult — it virtually marked East with both the king and jack of spades for the opening bid. Declarer saw a way to 11 tricks if East started with specifically K J's in the suit, or a doubleton K Q.

At trick three West shifted to the ten of clubs. South tried the queen from dummy just in case, captured the king with the ace, then tested trumps by cashing the ace. The queen of trumps was overtaken with the king to draw the last enemy king while providing an entry to dummy. A spade to the ten won, the table was reentered by overtaking the five of diamonds with the six and the queen of spades was finessed next. When both defenders followed to the ace of spades, dummy's nine of spades was set up as the fulfilling trick. And declarer could get to the board by overtaking the two of diamonds with the four.

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	Yusra, Safiyah Al Omari and Mahmoud Hamidah..in Al Muhajer (Immigrant)		SPANISH ROSE	Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 5:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30	CONCORD "1" SPEED Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 CONCORD "2" SLEEP WALKERS Shows: 3:15, 5:15		Cinema and Theatre Presents the political comedy: Legal Evening Entertainment Starring: Abeer Issa, Daoud Jalajel, Hassan Al Shaer and Mahmoud Abu Gharib. Children's theatre Marzouk and the Magic Lamp at 10 a.m. For reservation call tel: 618274-618275	Today & Everyday Abu Awwad in social comedy "PUNCTURED BAG"	Presents: The political satire: Al Salam Ya Salam Daily at 8:30 p.m. Saturday & Sunday is the theatre's holiday.	

